

2025-2026 TITLE I, PART A PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Katherine Smith Elementary School will implement the following Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirements:

1. Conduct a meaningful consultation with parents of participating children to implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents.
2. Develop jointly with, agree with, and distribute to parents of participating children the written Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
3. Provide technical assistance for parents to access the school's written Parent and Family Engagement Policy including the school-parent compact.
4. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to encourage parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
5. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for active parental involvement and promoting parenting skills and family literacy to improve academic achievement.
6. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies for Title I, Part A program with parental involvement strategies under other programs when feasible.
7. Conduct with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Program in improving the academic quality. We will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies.
8. Identify any barriers to greater participation by parents in activities of participating children with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.
9. Ensure that all parent notifications and school reports will be in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

Statement of Mission, Vision, and Beliefs**Mission:**

Houston ISD's mission is to provide a high-quality education that prepares every student for life beyond the classroom, focusing on strong instruction, great teachers, effective school leaders, and high expectations. The district aims to equip students for college, career, or military service through equitable, transparent, and efficient practices.

Katherine Smith Elementary's mission is to provide a rigorous academic learning environment that fosters a college-bound culture and produces responsible citizens for our 21st-century multicultural society.

Vision:

The vision of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) is to empower students to become critical thinkers, visionary leaders, and active contributors in their community, fostering a pathway to success for limitless opportunities in a competitive global landscape. By 2035, HISD aims to have implemented systemic reforms to close achievement gaps and prepare all students for the future workplace. This includes a focus on strong instruction, great teachers, effective leadership, and a culture of high expectations and accountability.

Katherine Smith Elementary's vision is to promote academic excellence in all students and cultivate responsible citizens for a diverse, global society.

This includes a focus on:

Academic Excellence: Providing a challenging and engaging curriculum.

21st Century Skills: Developing critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and adaptability.

College-Bound Culture: Inspiring and preparing students for higher education.

Responsible Citizenship: Fostering a sense of responsibility, empathy, and contribution to the community.

Beliefs:

Houston ISD's core beliefs center on student success, emphasizing high expectations, strong support for educators, and community engagement. They believe in empowering schools, offering school choice while ensuring equitable resources, and valuing the knowledge and skills of personnel, especially teachers and principals. Safety, student learning, and results-oriented actions are also key tenets, with parents viewed as vital partners in the educational process.

Katherine Smith Elementary's beliefs:

1. We believe each child should have individual strengths recognized and nurtured.
2. We believe all children must have a safe environment in which to learn.
3. We believe that all children learn differently, and it is our responsibility to meet their learning style needs.
4. We believe all children are worth the investment of time, energy, and dedication to discover what motivates them to learn.
5. We believe all children and parents should know we truly have their best interests at heart.
6. We believe all children deserve an equal chance and all learning should be engaging and diverse.

Parental Involvement in Policy Development

Katherine Smith Elementary School will hold an annual Parent and Family Engagement Policy Review Meeting in the Spring to develop/revise the current policies to meet the needs of the campus and the community. Additionally, a parent survey will be provided to give parents who were unable to attend the meeting the opportunity to give their input.

School-Parent Compacts

Katherine Smith Elementary School will provide the School-Parent Compact, which is a written agreement between the school, parents, and the students, outlining shared responsibilities for supporting academic achievement. This compact ensures that all stakeholders are working together to help students reach their full potential.

School-Parent Communication

Katherine Smith Elementary School will keep the lines of communication open. Communication will be provided in a language that parents are able to understand. Parents will have the opportunity to receive communication through:

1. Parent Square
2. Monthly calendars and newsletters
3. Phone calls
4. Emails
5. Social media

Annual Title I Meeting

Katherine Smith Elementary School will hold a Title I meeting in the Fall of each year, which will inform parents and families about their school's participation in the Title I program and to explain their rights to be involved in their child's education. These meetings also include how funds are used and how parents can engage with the school. Two opportunities for parent attendance will be provided, one in the morning in person and an evening meeting, which will be offered via TEAMS or Zoom.