

2025-2026 Starr Elementary

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Starr Elementary intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, *Section 1116(a -f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.*

In General

Each school served under this part shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent, practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. The policy shall be made available to the local community and updated to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Schools shall provide opportunities for the participation of parents and family members including those with migratory children, limited English proficiency, or have disabilities. Parent shall be notified of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable provided in a language the parents can understand.

At Starr Elementary, we believe that our parents and families are key partners in the success of our students. We have family nights throughout the year as well as other activities where families can engage with the school community. Some of these events have included Parent Breakfast, Literacy Nights, Movie Nights, Parent Teacher Conferences twice a year, PTO meetings and we have brought in guest speakers and children's museum activities for families. There are also open houses and musical concerts. All opportunities are communicated in the weekly newsletter that can be translated in native languages. The newsletter is shared via text, email, and Facebook weekly.

Convene an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.

An annual Title I parent meeting is held every year in the Fall. It is usually held in conjunction with a PTO meeting or other parent activity and is advertised so all parents are encouraged to attend. We gather feedback from parents about the positives, as well as areas for improvement in our building. We discuss and solidify the parent-school compact and gather ideas from our families. We also discuss how our school qualifies for Title I funding and how those funds are used to provide equitable opportunities for Starr Elementary students.

- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Starr Elementary gathers feedback from parents on a continuous basis. Parents are asked to complete a climate survey that is provided by the district every year. During our annual parent meeting, we also ask for feedback on how we can improve communication and support for all students.

- Provide opportunities for parents and family members to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. The school shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.

Parent-Teacher Conferences and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings are some of the ways that parents participate in the educational process for their children. Weekly communication regarding upcoming opportunities for collaboration is listed in the school newsletter (which is accessible in many languages). Parents are also encouraged to email or call the school with any questions or ideas for teachers, counselor, social worker, or administration.

- Provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

Our student handbook is available to parents at their request. Assessments that are provided throughout the year are communicated to parents in the weekly newsletter, as well as through phone calls, emails, text messages, and social media outlets. At parent-teacher conferences and IEP meetings, student assessment results are shared on an individual basis with families. More details about the reports are provided during these meetings. Report cards are also posted three times a year, and parents are supported in how to access them online.

- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

Starr Elementary believes that parent and family involvement is necessary for student success. Staff are trained on various communication modes for reaching out to parents. Staff are encouraged to

reach out when a student is struggling and partner with them on how to best support. Our counselor, social worker, secretary, and bilingual staff members are also great support in helping parents stay connected with the school.

- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Summer Strong (summer school) is provided to Kindergarten through 4th-grade students in June, a joint effort with Title I. POWER Camp is also provided to 2nd through 5th-grade students in June, a joint effort with Title I and Title IV. Kindergarten Open House and Back-to-School Nights are provided as opportunities for parents to learn more about the programs and activities offered at Starr Elementary.