

Mills Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2025-2026

Mission

Mills Middle School prioritizes the needs of each student by cultivating an inclusive environment that provides for community-based academic and social emotional growth.

Vision

Mills Middle School is an inclusive, diverse community of learners whose staff ensures equitable access to rigorous academic learning while simultaneously fostering the social and emotional well-being of the whole child.

Mills Middle School strives to involve parents, in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Title 1 program, including the planning, review, and improvement of Mills' Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the joint development of the Schoolwide Program (SWP) plan and ensure effective involvement of parents, and support a partnership between the greater Mills community, and parents to improve student academic achievement and help students reach high expectations. (20 U.S.C. Sections 6318(c)(3), 6318(e)).

Parents will be invited to give input, monitor, and review this policy and the Mills Title 1 SWP at various meetings occurring at flexible times, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and, when appropriate and with reasonable notice, Mills may provide transportation, child care, or home visits as such services relate to parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(2)).

- Title 1 Parent Meeting (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(1))
 - Held annually in the Fall.
 - Invitations to this meeting will be distributed prior to the event through fliers, emails and newsletters.
 - Title 1 meeting agendas will cover:
 - The definition and qualifications to be identified as a Title 1 school and student.
 - Understanding Title 1 funding and the use of site allocation of funds.
 - Timely information about Title 1 SWP plan (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(4)(A).
 - District Adopted Curriculum (20 U.S.C. SEction 6318(c)(4)(B)
 - District and State level assessments of student progress toward meeting state academic standards (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(4)(B)
 - Student participation in Supplemental Educational Services
 - Parent involvement opportunities
- Back to School Night (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5)
- Parent Conferences (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5), 6318(d)(2)(A)

- Monthly Newsletters (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5))
- Mills Middle School Website: <https://www.fcusd.org/mills> (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5))
- Mills English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5))
- Mills School Site Council (SSC) (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(5))
- Site-level Parent Surveys
- California Healthy Kids Survey
 - Annually distributed by the Folsom Cordova Unified School District
- Home visits
- Focus groups
- Parent classes/workshops

Additional meetings are available upon request for parents to give suggestions, and discuss, as appropriate, decisions related to the education of their children. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(4)(C)).

If support is needed in order for parents to participate in these activities and/or committees, Mills is committed to providing such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(14)).

If the Mills Parent and Family Engagement Plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, “parents may submit comments on the plan at any of these parent meetings or school-wide events, as well as through the Mills website or in our office. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(c)(5)).

Mills Middle School will provide assistance to parents of children that we serve in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title 1, Part A, and how to monitor their student’s progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Mills will also, as appropriate, provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement, to foster parental involvement, as appropriate. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(4)).

At Mills Middle School, parents are equal partners in helping their students reach their academic potential. We are committed to educating teachers, Instructional aides, Bilingual Instructional Aides, school leaders and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with parents, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and Mills. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(e)(3)).

Mills Middle School is committed to building connections through frequent, clear, and responsive communication between school and home. Communication is important to the success of our greater school community and central to all students’ academic success, progress toward goals, and development of character. Mills Middle uses a variety of ways to communicate and connect with families:

- Mills monthly family newsletters in email and text and posted on our website.
- Fliers and Peachjar (an online flier sharing system).
- Blackboard, which enables us to send outgoing emails, text messages, and voice messages school-wide.
- Quarterly report cards mailed home.
- Back to School Night.
- New Parent Orientation Night.
- English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) & School Site Council (SSC)
- Family Events
- Mustang Rodeo Day (new student orientation day)

(20 U.S.C. Sections 6318(d)(2), 6318(d)(2)(B), 6318(d)(2)(C))

Translation from English to a family's home language is essential to building connections between school and home. Our messaging is sent home in English, Spanish and Russian. When families use the Google Translate tool, they can translate messages that come to them into their home language. Conferences are held in a family's home language, by request, and with reasonable notice, either through an in-person interpreter or the Language Line. Spanish, Russian and Farsi translators are available in person, at Mills, throughout the school day. (20 U.S.C. Section 6318(d)(2)(D)).

As a component of the Mills Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Mills jointly developed a school-parent compact that outlines how Mills families, Mills school staff, and Mills students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the Mills school community, with families, will build and develop a partnership to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to achieve California's high academic standards. The school-parent compact is reviewed and signed by a parent and the classroom teacher each year. (20 U.S.C. Sections 6318(d), 6318(d)(1), 6318(f)).