



THURGOOD MARSHALL

ELEMENTARY

One Team, One Dream

FAMILY HANDBOOK

Thurgood Marshall Elementary

Parent-Family Engagement Policy

One Team. One Dream.

If students are to be successful, parents and guardians must be actively involved in their education. Thurgood Marshall Elementary developed this policy to describe how we involve parents in the development of policies and the School-Parent Compact. We aim to assist parents in knowing how to help their children achieve in school and to ensure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities are fully included in their child's education. This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents of children participating in the Title I program, as well as teachers, community members, and administrators.

Annual Title I Parent Meeting

At the beginning of each school year, we invite the parents of all children who participate in the Title I program to an annual meeting to discuss the requirements of a Title I school. At this meeting, assessment scores and goals for the school year are reviewed. We discuss Title I law, its requirements, and the rights and benefits available to parents of children involved. We also explain how parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including contributing to this Parental Involvement Policy and the School-Wide Program Plan.

Program Involvement and Additional Parent Meetings

At the Annual Title I Parent Meeting and at other times throughout the year, parents of participating children receive timely information about our Title I

programs, including reading, math, technology, tutoring, counseling, Saturday tutorials, and enrichment activities. We explain our expectations for students and describe how we measure performance.

Parents are informed about how both the school and their individual child are performing on state standardized tests such as STAAR, as well as other performance measures. A parent liaison or coordinator holds regular meetings and offers opportunities for parents to make suggestions, share experiences with other parents, and participate in decisions regarding services provided and the use of parental involvement funds. If the School-Wide Program Plan is unsatisfactory to parents, the school submits parent comments to the District and revises the plan with input from the District, campus committees, and other designees as determined by the Director of External Funding in the Houston Independent School District.

School-Parent Compact

The School-Parent Compact was jointly developed with parents of participating Title I students and explains how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for each child's academic success. Federal law requires that each compact must be developed with campus-level parental input.

Building Capacity for Involvement

It is part of Thurgood Marshall Elementary's role to teach parents how to help their children learn. One way this is accomplished is by explaining educational laws and standards. Parents are given information about Title I requirements, Texas content and performance standards (TEKS), and opportunities to work with educators in making decisions related to their child's education.

Parent Training and Involvement

Presentations and workshops are offered to inform parents whether their child is making academic progress, how they can support learning at home, and how to be active participants in decision-making. Materials and training are provided in areas such as Family Literacy, Family Math, Family Reading, Computer Literacy, and ESL for parents.

Other activities may include parenting skills workshops, volunteer recruitment, dropout prevention, and outreach for both parents and students. Training is also given to teachers and staff on the importance of parent involvement, developing strong partnerships with families, and strategies for building ties between home and school. Parent-teacher conferences, district presentations, and open communication are encouraged to strengthen collaboration.

Thurgood Marshall Elementary coordinates parental involvement activities across different programs offered on campus, including Title I, the Parent Involvement Center, and parent tutoring opportunities.

Community and Business Partnerships

The development of school-community partnerships that include opportunities for parents is encouraged. Community-based organizations and businesses may provide programs and resources for families, including health information, banking and insurance education, and family support.

Accessibility

Ensuring the participation of all families is a priority. Information about student achievement, school performance, and opportunities for parent involvement is provided in the home language whenever possible. Standard communications in Spanish include this policy, the School-Parent Compact, announcements, newsletters, report cards, and school messages. For parents whose home language is other than English or Spanish, HISD provides translation methods to support communication.

Parents with disabilities are supported through accessible facilities, interpreters, and other accommodations as needed so they may fully participate in meetings, programs, and school events.

Parental Comments

Parents are offered regular opportunities to make suggestions, share experiences, and participate in decisions regarding their child's education. Parents are also provided the email addresses of campus administrators to voice concerns. All parental comments receive a timely response, and feedback is used to improve school programs and services.

✓ At Thurgood Marshall Elementary, families and staff work together as One Team with One Dream to ensure every child succeeds.