PILGRIM ACADEMY
Houston Independent School District
6302 Skyline Drive · Houston, Texas 77057
Tel. No. 713-458-4672

Christopher Hua
Principal

Pilgrim Academy Parent and Family Engagement Policy

ESSA Section 1116
2026–2027

Pilgrim Academy shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy that describes the means for carrying out the requirements of ESSA Section 1116(c) through (f). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language parents can understand. The policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents, families, and the school.

Mission Statement

Pilgrim Academy's Parent and Family Engagement Program is a collaboration between school staff and families to promote effective communication and meaningful engagement between school and home in order to maximize student academic success. This partnership reflects the school's belief that families play a vital role in supporting student learning and strengthening the school community.

1. Development and Distribution of the Policy

Pilgrim Academy will work jointly with parents and family members to develop, review, and improve this Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Parent input will be gathered through campus meetings, committee participation, school communications, and opportunities for feedback throughout the school year. Revisions may be submitted to the Title I Coordinator at any time and will be reviewed with the appropriate parent committee before updates are finalized.

The policy is typically reviewed in **Early Fall** of each school year. The revised policy will be distributed to families in an understandable format and, to the extent practicable, in a language families can understand. The policy will also be made available through ParentSquare, the school website, newsletters, and other campus communication methods. Pilgrim Academy will provide this document in English and Spanish.

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2. Annual Title I Meeting

Pilgrim Academy will convene an annual Title I meeting in **August** at a convenient time to which all parents and family members of participating children will be invited and encouraged to attend. During this meeting, the school will inform families of the school's participation in Title I, explain the requirements of Title I, and outline the rights of parents and families to be involved in their child's education.

Parents and families will be notified of the annual meeting through ParentSquare and other campus communication methods. The Title I Coordinator will be responsible for organizing and conducting the annual meeting.

3. Flexible Parent Meetings and Opportunities for Participation

Pilgrim Academy will offer a flexible number of parent and family engagement opportunities throughout the school year. These opportunities may include meetings, trainings, family events, curriculum-based sessions, conferences, and campus activities designed to support student learning and strengthen school-family partnerships.

At this time, Pilgrim Academy does not commit to specific future meeting dates beyond the annual August Title I meeting. Additional engagement opportunities will be communicated to families as they are scheduled during the school year. Meetings and events may be offered in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format, depending on campus needs and accessibility. Pilgrim Academy does not currently provide transportation or childcare for meetings.

4. Ongoing Involvement of Parents in School Planning and Improvement

Pilgrim Academy will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Campus Improvement Plan/Campus Action Plan, as applicable.

Parents who have previously participated in developing the Parent and Family Engagement Program may be invited to continue their involvement, and additional family members may be recruited through school outreach efforts. Parents are also invited to participate in campus needs assessment discussions and provide input on school priorities, academic supports, and family engagement practices. Pilgrim Academy seeks to ensure that parent representation reflects the demographics and needs of the school community, including families of students receiving special education services and other special populations.

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5. Information for Parents and Families

Pilgrim Academy will provide parents and family members of participating children with timely information about Title I programs and related school activities. The school will also provide families with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the State's academic standards.

This information may be shared through Title I meetings, curriculum nights, ParentSquare messages, school newsletters, campus documents, and direct communication from school staff. If requested by parents, the school will provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children. The school will respond to parent suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

6. Schoolwide Plan Feedback

If the schoolwide program plan, including the Campus Improvement Plan or Campus Action Plan, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, parent comments will be collected and submitted to the local educational agency as appropriate. Pilgrim Academy will provide parents with information about the plan and a way to share questions, feedback, or concerns with campus administration.

7. Building Capacity for Parent and Family Engagement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, families, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Pilgrim Academy will:

Provide assistance to parents in understanding academic standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, and ways to monitor student progress and work with educators to improve student achievement.

Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement, including support in using educational resources and school-related technology when appropriate.

Educate teachers, staff, and school leaders on the value of parent contributions and on how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners.

Coordinate parent engagement efforts with other campus, district, state, and local programs when feasible and appropriate.

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Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities as requested by families, as practicable.

8. Family Engagement Activities

Pilgrim Academy will offer a variety of parent and family engagement activities throughout the school year to support student achievement and strengthen the partnership between home and school. These activities may include, but are not limited to, Parent and Family Engagement Committee meetings, annual Title I meetings, additional Title I informational meetings, curriculum nights, STAAR parent meetings, reading and math nights, parent-teacher conferences, student showcases, expos, and other academic or family-centered campus events.

These activities are designed to provide families with information about curriculum, assessments, student expectations, and ways to support learning at home, while also creating opportunities for meaningful family involvement in the life of the school. Specific dates, times, and formats for these activities will be shared with families as they are finalized.

9. Accessibility and Communication

Pilgrim Academy is committed to ensuring that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents and family members in a format and language they can understand, to the extent practicable. Communication may occur through ParentSquare, the school website, newsletters, phone calls, conferences, and other school communication systems.

The school will make reasonable efforts to ensure participation by parents and family members with limited English proficiency, disabilities, or other needs that may affect access to information or participation in school events.

10. Adoption of Policy

This Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with, parents and family members of children participating in Title I programs at Pilgrim Academy.

This policy will be in effect for the **2026–2027** school year and will be distributed to families and made available to the community in accordance with ESSA Section 1116.