Cuero Junior High School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Schoolwide Program Plan
2026–2027

Cuero Junior High School (CJH) will jointly develop with, and involve, parents and family members in an ongoing, systematic way in planning, reviewing, and improving its Title I, Part A program and this Parent and Family Engagement Policy. CJH is committed to building strong school, family, and community partnerships that support improved student academic achievement and positive school climate.

I. Coordination, technical assistance, and support

Cuero Junior High School will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Provide Parent/Teacher Conferences and outreach that include regular, two-way, meaningful communication between parents/family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and family members can understand.
- Hold Campus Performance Objective Committee (CPOC) meetings in the fall and spring semesters with parent and family representation.
- Host Meet the Teacher/Schedule Pick-Up prior to the start of school, with flexible hours to accommodate families.
- Conduct STAAR informational meetings with parents and families to review assessment expectations, supports, and how to read score reports.
- Host an annual Parent and Family Meeting in conjunction with the Junior Gobbler Camp to review campus policies and procedures, course expectations, grading practices, and progress monitoring tools.
- Provide choir and band fall and spring concerts and other fine arts events that welcome and engage families.
- Host College and Career Day, including information for families on high school planning, endorsements, and CTE pathways.
- Invite guest speakers and community partners to present on topics relevant to student success, wellness, and safety.

II. Joint development of the campus-level Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Cuero Junior High School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the joint development of its Campus-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plan under Section 1118 of the ESEA:

- Include parent and family representatives on the CPOC/Campus Improvement Committee, with clear roles, agendas shared in advance, and minutes posted on the district website when appropriate.
- Use Parent/Teacher Conferences and ongoing outreach to gather input from parents and families regarding needs, barriers, and ideas for improving engagement.

III. Involvement in school review and improvement

Cuero Junior High School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Conduct annual parent and family surveys to gather input on school climate, communication, academic supports, and engagement opportunities.
- Host Junior Gobbler Camp at the beginning of the school year and other student/parent orientation events as needed for new students, providing information about school expectations, routines, and available supports.

- Include parent and family members on the CPOC to participate in the development, review, and revision of the Campus Improvement Plan and Title I, Part A program.
- Use Parent/Teacher Conferences and outreach to discuss student progress, gather parent input, and identify areas for continuous improvement at the classroom and campus levels.
- Share campus performance data and improvement goals with parents and families in user-friendly formats and invite feedback.

IV. Coordination with other programs and community partners

Cuero Junior High School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I, Part A with strategies under other programs and through community partnerships, including but not limited to:

- CATCH Wellness Team
- DeWitt County Extension Agent – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
- Gulf Bend Center
- MidCoast Family Services
- STCH Ministries Family Counseling – Victoria

In collaboration with these and other partners, CJH will:

- Provide workshops and resources addressing academic support, mental health and wellness, digital citizenship, and college and career readiness.
- Coordinate parent and family events when possible to maximize participation and reduce scheduling conflicts.

V. Annual evaluation of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Cuero Junior High School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parent and Family Engagement Policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A program:

- By May 31 each year, conduct an evaluation of parent and family engagement efforts using tools such as surveys, participation data, and, as feasible, parent focus groups.
- Identify barriers to greater participation by parents and families, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are from racial or ethnic minority backgrounds.
- Disaggregate survey and participation data by grade level, program (e.g., special education, emergent bilingual), and demographic groups to identify underrepresented families.
- Use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and to revise, if necessary and with the involvement of parents, this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and related activities.
- Set at least one measurable goal each year for improving parent and family participation.

Parent surveys created or generated by the district will be disseminated by Cuero Junior High School and posted on the district website. Data and input received will be used to plan and adjust parent and family engagement activities.

VI. Building capacity for strong parent and family engagement

Cuero Junior High School will build school and parent capacity for strong parent and family engagement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

A. Assisting parents in understanding standards and assessments

With the assistance of the district, Cuero Junior High School will provide assistance to parents and family members of children served by the campus, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as:

- The state's academic content standards.
- The state's student academic achievement standards.
- The state and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments.
- The program requirements of Title I, Part A.
- How to monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- How to access and interpret information in the parent portal (grades, attendance, assignments).

These topics will be addressed through:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences and outreach.
- Progress reports and report card distribution.
- Parent meetings to discuss STAAR (including how to read STAAR reports), literacy strategies, and using technology to support learning (including education about the harms of copyright piracy).
- User-friendly guides and short how-to videos on accessing online platforms and resources, when feasible.

B. Providing materials and training to help parents support learning

With the assistance of the district, Cuero Junior High School will provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve academic achievement, such as literacy training and the use of technology, by:

- Hosting Meet the Teacher/Schedule Pick-Up events that include information on classroom expectations, homework routines, and communication methods.
- Providing Parent/Teacher Conferences and outreach focused on strategies families can use at home to support reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Offering STAAR informational meetings with specific tips for supporting test readiness and reducing test anxiety.
- Providing district parenting meetings and workshops focused on topics such as supporting adolescent learners, organization and study skills, digital responsibility, and social-emotional wellness.
- Sharing online and print resources (in English and Spanish, and in other languages as practicable) to reinforce skills at home.

C. Educating staff on effective family engagement

With the assistance of the district and parents, Cuero Junior High School will educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners in their child's education. CJH will:

- Provide annual staff development on culturally responsive family engagement, effective conferencing strategies, and using data to communicate student progress in clear, family-friendly language.
- Use faculty meetings and department meetings at least once each semester to highlight effective parent and family communication strategies and to share successful practices from CJH staff.
- Utilize teacher memos and digital communication, as necessary, to share reminders, tools, and expectations related to parent and family engagement.

D. Removing barriers and coordinating engagement activities

To the extent feasible and appropriate, Cuero Junior High School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with community organizations and engage in meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members. CJH will also conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children, including the informed participation of parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, those with disabilities, and those with migratory children, by providing, when available:

- Parent, family, and student resources (print and digital) available on campus and on the district website.
- Child friendly events to reduce barriers for families with young children.
- Events scheduled at varied times (morning, afternoon, and evening) to accommodate differing work schedules.

E. Ensuring effective communication

Cuero Junior High School will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent and family programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and family members can understand:

- Distribute newsletters and flyers with clear, concise information about events, programs, and opportunities for involvement.
- Use Finalsite notifications by phone, text, email, and social media for important announcements, reminders, emergency communication, publicize events, share information, and celebrate student success.
- Use Remind (or similar text messaging platforms) for timely, brief updates from teachers and the campus.
- Use the Band App and SportsYou App for timely communication with families involved in band, athletics, and related programs.
- Provide major communications regarding Title I, Part A programs, parent and family engagement activities, and academic expectations in English and Spanish, and in other languages as practicable, upon request.
- Provide alternative formats (such as large print or audio) when requested by parents or family members.

VII. Adoption

The Cuero Jr. High School Parental Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This policy was adopted by the Cuero Independent School District on and will be in effect for the period of July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 1, 2026.

Bill Hefner July 1, 2026

Interim Superintendent