

Sulphur Springs Independent School District

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Introduction - Sulphur Springs ISD provides Title I services. Therefore, the district is responsible to jointly develop [section 112], annually distribute [section 1116] and annually revise written parent involvement policies [section 1118(e)]. This action will take place at the campus level and will be incorporated into each Campus Improvement Plan. A district policy will be developed and maintained, and will be incorporated into the District Improvement Plan.

The information addresses descriptors that are required to meet regulations set forth in federal application assurances and Public Law [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118]. The seven categories listed below discuss mandated requirements.

- 1. Statement of Purpose** - Sulphur Springs Independent School District is committed to “excellence in teaching and learning.” Sulphur Springs ISD will provide quality educational experiences for every student. To this end, Sulphur Springs ISD will work collaboratively with parents and the community. Everyone benefits when school and home work together to promote high achievement for all students. Neither the home nor the school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as the child’s first teacher. Parent’s support for their children and for the school is critical to student success at each developmental age, stage and grade level.

Grade level Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are available online at www.tea.state.tx.us. TEKS will identify the content that students will be expected to learn at each grade level. The district recognizes some students may need additional assistance through Title I and related services to reach stated objectives. Sulphur Springs ISD will include parents in each facet of the Title I programming. The focus will be to develop and maintain a school-home partnership that will enable all students in Sulphur Springs ISD to experience academic success.

- 2. Bi-Annual Meetings for Title I Parents** - Sulphur Springs ISD hosts two meetings each year with one meeting in the fall and another session held in the spring. Information is distributed concerning the Title I program. Parents and other interested community members are given information about Title I Guidelines. Copies of the District Parent Involvement Policy are distributed and discussed. Parents are given an opportunity to offer suggestions for revisions and update the policy as needed.
- 3. School Parent Compacts** – Each individual Title I campus must have a compact that has been jointly developed with parents of participating students. Each school has an individualized compact that describes the responsibilities of how the school and parents will help improve student achievement. The compact addresses ways each party will hold themselves accountable to help students experience academic success. Compacts address the school’s responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive environment. Each compact describes ways that parents support student learning including but not limited to monitoring attendance, helping with homework and volunteering in the students’ classroom. The compact addresses

student responsibilities and may vary by grade level. Communication is another facet addressed in each campus compact.

- 4. Parent Involvement Program Based on Community Needs** – Sulphur Springs ISD assesses the needs of parents and students through formal surveys sent home annually. Title I surveys request specific information to better serve the needs of students. Workshops and programs are made available to meet the needs of parents and students. Parents are notified about upcoming opportunities through the district calendar, special program notices or campus specific information. Parents may call the central office, visit with campus office personnel or log on to the district web site at www.ssisd.net for additional information. Parents may use these same means to express interest in a workshop, make suggestions or obtain additional clarifying information.
- 5. Staff and Parent Communication** - Communication with parents will include news letters, notes in student report cards, telephone calls, and parent-teacher conferences. Student folders are sent home daily with pertinent information. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher when a concern arises. Staff seeks ways to improve home-school communication opportunities. Parent input is sought to continue strengthening this area.

Home & School Connection is a monthly newsletter sent to all students attending a Title I campus. The newsletter provides homework tips, learning activities and discipline information in both English and Spanish.
- 6. Evaluation** - There is an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Title I parental involvement program. Parent input is solicited. The evaluation assesses the extent of parental involvement and seeks to determine what barriers, if any, may exist regarding parent participation. Sulphur Springs ISD reviews and revises its Parental Involvement Policy annually.

The policy is coordinated by Central Office Administrators working with Title programs, parents, teachers and administration. The Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, administrators, faculty and staff recognize the importance of parent involvement and seek to work with families in order to provide the best educational experiences possible for every student.