

ITASCA ISD

PARENT and FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

2023-2024

Statement of Purpose

Itasca Independent School District is committed to providing a quality education for every child. In order to accomplish this goal, partnerships must be established with parents and the community. Everyone benefits if our school and families work together to promote high achievement for our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone.

Parents play a vital role as children's first teachers. The District recognizes and encourages parents in the following four key roles that they play in their children's learning:

- First, as a Teacher – helping their child at home;
- Second as a Supporter – contributing their skills to the school;
- Third, as an Advocate – helping their child receive fair treatment; and
- Finally as a Decision Maker – participating in joint problem-solving with the school at every level.

Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy

The district Parent/Community Advisory Board is comprised of parents, community leaders, school board members, and district personnel. The Advisory Board has direct input in developing the parent involvement policy on an ongoing basis. The Campus Improvement Committee on each campus provides input concerning the campus-based policy. Parent comments from parent/teacher conferences, parent surveys, and other meetings to solicit parent input are used in developing and revising this policy.

Types of Parental Involvement

The district Parent Involvement Director, coordinating with campus principals, provides the technical assistance and other support necessary to help schools plan and implement effective parental involvement efforts. The Director may also provide teacher training in working with parents. Realizing the value of parents and their contribution to the partnership of creating successful students, input will be requested to assist education personnel in building upon that partnership relationship to strengthen ties between home and school.

The following are possible opportunities for home-school partnerships that parents are encouraged to take advantage of throughout the year:

- Parent education workshops
- Parent/Teacher Conference
- Home visits
- Itasca ISD Parent/Student Compacts from each campus
- Title I meetings as designated by each Title I campus, offered on two different days at two different times
- The Itasca ISD website

- Parent Surveys
- Staff/Parent Communication

Communications with parents, as well as materials and notices sent home, are provided in Spanish as needed.

Teachers will provide progress reports for parents every three weeks. At least one conference concerning the child's progress will be held at the end of the first reporting period and during the second semester at the elementary level. Secondary-level meetings are held as needed. Conferences may also be held at the request of the parent or teacher. Additional communication may come home in the form of phone calls, newsletters, weekly memos, notes home, school marquee, and district and campus websites.

Evaluation

Evaluations will be conducted through: District Parent Involvement Advisory Board Review, Annual Title I meetings on Title I campuses, Annual Public Hearing for Title programs, and campus surveys conducted with parents. The district and campuses will use information from these sources to design school improvement strategies and revise the parental involvement policy.

Please contact Kristi Sargent, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability, at 254-687-2922 with any questions, concerns, and/or comments.