Liberty Elementary
School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2019-2020
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Parent and Family Input ................................................................. 3  
Communication ............................................................................ 4  
School Parent/Family Compact .................................................... 5-6  
Compacity Building ....................................................................... 7-8
PARENT AND FAMILY INPUT

Jointly Developed
Parents and family members will work together with teachers and staff to develop the Engagement Policy and schoolwide plan through participation on the Community Council, which also serves as the Title I Committee at Liberty Elementary.

Input
Parents not on this committee will also be able to express their views and opinions through surveys, district interviews conducted, and feedback gathered at monthly PTA meetings. Parents are also invited to come to the monthly Community Council meetings to voice any problems, concerns, ideas, or with questions they have in regards to programs, and other policies at Liberty Elementary regarding their children’s education.

Monthly Meetings
These meetings are held monthly at a designated time and place. In addition to voting members elected, all parents are invited to attend and participate. The meeting dates and agendas are posted on the website, a copy posted on the front doors, and announced in the monthly PTA newsletters. Email and text reminders are also provided to allow as much participation and involvement as possible. During these meetings important decisions, policy development, and programs are discussed and an agreement is voted upon.

“There is a need—and a place—for every parent in every school.”

Annual Title I Meeting
Liberty Elementary will hold its annual Title I Meeting in conjunction with Back to School Night. At this time parents and families will hear a short presentation to inform them of the school’s Title I requirements, Title I programs, and explain how parents can be involved in their child’s education. This meeting will be held on August 15th, 2019.
Communication

A brochure will be distributed to all in attendance at the annual Title I Meeting. This brochure will explain the engagement policy, Title I programs, ways to become involved, and an explanation of Title I requirements. This will be available in English and Spanish. A copy will also be sent home in the back to school folders to ensure that everyone has access to a copy. Other information regarding Title I programs and a child’s participation in these programs will be sent to families in weekly or monthly newsletters, as well as copies posted on the school website. These important documents will be posted in English and Spanish. Liberty will use a variety of ways to communicate necessary information regarding school programs, and other parent activities in a variety of ways, such as:

- Newsletters and Written Notes
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- School Website
- Text Messages through REMIND
- Emails

“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child’s success is the positive involvement of parents.”

-Jane Hull

Communication in a Language the family can understand

Every effort will be made to send information in a language that the family can understand. Important Title I documents will be in English and Spanish when printed for distribution. Special attention will be given to families that indicate on their intake form that a different language other than English is the primary language. An ESL registration day is offered to students in the district that need translators to help register their children. Parents that could use this service will be notified. Families will also be offered translators at Parent Teacher Conferences.
SCHOOL-PARENT/FAMILY COMPACT

This compact will be developed jointly in Title I Committee meetings using information gathered through research-based practices for improved academic achievement. Information gathered through parent and student interviews, surveys, and parent input will also be considered as the parent and family compact is developed.
## SCHOOL FAMILY COMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparation</th>
<th>Student I will:</th>
<th>Parent I will:</th>
<th>Teacher I will:</th>
<th>School I will:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arrive at school on time and ready to learn.</td>
<td>Ensure my child attends school regularly, on time and with adequate sleep for their age. Contact school if student is absent for any reason.</td>
<td>Provide high quality, engaging curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that meets the state’s standards. Check with student when there is an absence.</td>
<td>Educate parents of the attendance policy. A student advocate will help with attendance issues and contact parents after 3 absences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage and Communicate</td>
<td>Respect other students, adults, and property. Listen, participate, ask for help when needed.</td>
<td>Attend scheduled conferences, commit to volunteering when possible, and contact the school with questions or concerns. Check for notes, texts, or emails.</td>
<td>Communicate with parents to keep them involved and informed using conferences, email, notes, phone calls, or texts. Send weekly newsletters. Welcome volunteers in the classroom.</td>
<td>Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate on committees. Communicate with parents by keeping school website and marquee updated. Also keep parents informed through texts and emails.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Success</td>
<td>Take home school work and backpack every day and complete and return all homework assignments. Commit to reading at home 20+ minutes a day.</td>
<td>Read with my child on a regular basis. Check Aspire on a regular basis to monitor grades. Establish a distraction-free place and time to assist my child with homework.</td>
<td>Utilize evidence-based practices to support individualized student needs. Provide timely and meaningful feedback on assignments and assessments. Update Aspire regularly.</td>
<td>Send SB 150 reports to show reading levels (K-3). Send midterm, quarterly progress reports, and report cards. School will provide Tier 2 interventions for students struggling in math and reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Emotional Success</td>
<td>Verbally express my needs respectfully and ask for help if needed. Follow the school rules.</td>
<td>Support school systems and rules. Work with staff and participate to resolve any issues. Communicate with school with issues and concerns that may affect child’s academic or social success.</td>
<td>Create a supportive community in the classroom where students feel safe and ready to learn. Teach social skills in the classroom and model the social skills for the students.</td>
<td>School wide rules will be taught and enforced with consequences and positive rewards. Structured recess and school rally will take place to provide a healthy school environment. A student advocate will work with students who need support with behavior and social skills.</td>
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CAPACITY BUILDING

Building Parent and Family Capacity

Liberty Elementary is committed to build strong relationships between parents and families and the school. This is an important piece to helping students academically succeed and engaging as many parents and families as possible. Liberty Elementary will do this in the following ways:

- Create an inviting and welcoming culture
- Hold parent workshops on an as needed basis
- Encourage parents to use resources such as Khan Academy, Lexia, Zearn, and iReady.
- Hold family events such as:
  - School Fall Carnival
  - Parent Math Nights
  - Family Feast Nights
  - Career Day for Students using parent volunteers
  - Field Trips

Provide Learning Materials to Families

Teachers will work with the principal and the Title I Committee to decide an academic, social, or emotional need to focus on to raise student’s academic achievement through the involvement of parents and families. This year, the focus will be on improving math skills. Materials and training will be given to parents through a program called Tang Math. This allows parents to be taught useful skills to help their child at home to build necessary math skills.

“Low parental involvement is generally not an indicator of low interest, but rather of community barriers that prevent schools from effectively engaging parents.”

-Tiffany Anderson

Work with Parents as Partners

Liberty Elementary is committed to working with parents to ensure the academic success for all students. Teachers are committed to consistent communication to all parents through weekly classroom newsletters. This allows the teachers to communicate with parents about what the students are learning in the classroom, any expectations, and announcements. Teacher’s also understand the importance of parent teacher conferences and strive to make
themselves available for all families using a flexible appointment schedule if necessary. Parents are invited to volunteer in the school allowing them to build a meaningful connection to home and school.

Another way Liberty Elementary is committed to working with students and parents is by providing a Student Advocate Teacher for the students and families at our school. The Student Advocate helps work with students and parents with behavior issues, social skills, attendance, or direct students and families to available resources that are needed.