

PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY ***EARLY I.S.D.***

Statement of Purpose

Early I.S.D. believes that every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Therefore, Early I.S.D. will maximize its resources to enable each child to become a successful learner. A key resource is its people: administrators, teachers, school staff, parents, and community members. We will work together to establish effective partnerships; together everyone achieves more. School and home must work together to realize higher student achievement. Ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication will occur to facilitate mutual understanding and to stimulate student success.

Early I.S.D. will provide to all parents the grade level goals for its students. Early I.S.D. will also publish the state testing schedule and assessment goals. Those students who need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals.

Early I.S.D. will make every effort to include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title I Program and the Parent Involvement Policy. The school-parent compact will describe the responsibilities of key stakeholders and useful channels of communication. The goal of our parental involvement program is student success.

Developing the Policy and Involving Parents in the Schoolwide Plan

Early I.S.D.'s Site-Based District Improvement Team is comprised of parents, community members, administrators, teachers, and other staff members. This committee will meet annually to discuss the design and implementation of the Parent Involvement Policy which is a part of the district and campus improvement plans. This advisory committee will also provide input regarding the development and revision of the district and/or campus improvement plans.

Early I.S.D. will actively recruit volunteers for the team through various avenues of publicity. Committee selections will produce a diverse group of stakeholders that represent the diversity of student populations served by the district and one or more parents on the advisory committee will have children participating in a Title I program. Meetings will be planned at convenient times and locations for all concerned parties. If a translator is needed, the district will arrange for one to be present.

Building Capacity

Early I.S.D. values the partnership of the parents in their children's education. There are many ways that parents can make significant contributions to student success both at home and by volunteering at the school. Student achievement is the result of effective home-school-community partnerships.

Annual Title I Parent Meeting: Early I.S.D. will hold an annual meeting at each qualifying campus at the beginning of the school year to explain and review Title I guidelines and services offered through the district. The Parent Involvement Plan will be reviewed and updated as necessary. Input is requested and encouraged.

Home-School Compact: In accordance with Title I regulations, each campus will develop and annually update a home-school compact which will explain how students, parents, and staff will share responsibility for student performance and success. Members of the campuses' SBDM Committee will be consulted in the design and implementation of the compact. All parents will be given a copy of the compact in English and Spanish annually as part of the Student Handbooks. Students and parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact.

Staff/Parent Communication: Parents will be informed of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year such as newsletters, conferences, personal contacts, written notices, the Early I.S.D. website and Facebook, and School Messenger messages. TxConnect is available for parents of students in grades 3-12 to check grades. Nutrikids (MySchoolBucks) provides information related to students' lunch accounts. Teachers also have individual web pages for sharing information. The Parent Involvement Policy of Early ISD will be shared at the parent-teacher conferences annually.

Coordination of Programs

Early I.S.D. has developed a partnership with public preschool programs such as Tuesday School, Brown County Head Start, Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities, Early Prekindergarten, Family Services, and local day care centers such as Kids Tracks, Early Beginnings, and Kids Town.

Early I.S.D. will assess the needs of the parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools such as a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs. Workshops or other training will be made available to educators and parents to address these needs. Parents will be notified about training opportunities.

Funding

Early I.S.D. provides funding for parental involvement in an amount equal to or exceeding 1% of the Title I funds received by the district. The Campus Improvement/Advisory Committee provides input regarding the use of these funds.

Evaluation

Early I.S.D. will work with its District Improvement/Advisory Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program. Surveys, classroom observation, assessment data, and other resources will be used to determine the needs and to develop revised strategies for student success. Barriers to parental involvement will be identified. Parental input will be sought. Revisions to the Title I Program and the Parental Involvement Policy will be developed and agreed upon with parent input and will be communicated to the parents in the district.

Closing Statement

Early I.S.D. is committed to the success of the students. We will work together with parents to monitor the effectiveness of our Parental Involvement and Title I Programs and to provide excellence in education. This policy will be promoted by Early I.S.D. as we seek active participation by our parents.