

## **Sonora Elementary School Campus Parental Involvement Policy**

*P.L. 107-110, Section 1118 (a) (2) The district shall develop jointly with, agree on with, distribute to parents of participant children a written parent involvement policy...*

*P.L. 107-110, Section 1118 (b) (1) Each school served under Title I, Part A shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed upon by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the (parental involvement) requirements...*

### **Basic Elements of the Campus Parental Involvement Policy:**

1. Statement of Purpose
2. Developing the Policy
3. Involve Parents in the School wide Plan
4. Building Capacity
5. Annual Meeting
6. School-Parent Compacts
7. Evaluation

### **Purpose**

Sonora Elementary believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Therefore, Sonora Elementary 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.

Sonora Elementary will provide to all parents the grade level goals for its students. Those students that need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals.

Sonora Elementary School 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 School wide Plan**

The Sonora Elementary CAT will revisit and revise the Sonora Elementary School Parent Involvement Policy annually with the input of all members, including parents.

Additionally, Sonora Elementary School understands that the parental involvement policy is a part of the larger district and campus improvement plans. The CAT will also provide input regarding the development and revision of the campus improvement plan.

### **Building Capacity**

Sonora Elementary values the partnership of the parents in their children's education. There are many ways 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. Donna Hanusch, Counselor, is our Parent Involvement Coordinator and can be reached at 325-387-6940 ext. 3103. Background checks are required for all parents wanting to volunteer prior to scheduling.

### **Annual Meeting**

Sonora Elementary School will hold an annual meeting during the first six weeks of the new school year for all parents. At that meeting the Title I program will be described, the Parental Involvement Policy will be distributed and reviewed, and opportunities for parental participation will be explained. Parent volunteers will be recruited to serve on the CAT.

The annual meeting will be held twice for the convenience of parents and translators will be present at each meeting. Parents will be informed about the meeting in the newspaper, by email, and notices will be sent home with students.

Since the goal of Sonora Elementary School is student success, the expectations for school performance, individual student assessments, and grade level curriculum will be provided in a format parents can understand.

Parents will be advised that the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program will be evaluated annually and the policy will be revised to meet the needs of the students, school, parents, and community.

## **Parent School Compacts**

The Sonora Elementary School CAT will meet annually to review and revise the Parent-School Compact. The compact will:

- identify the responsibilities of the staff to provide high-level curriculum and instruction, and the expectations of the parents to provide support in their children's learning
- will address the best ways to maintain positive, timely communication between school and home
- will be available to all parents and families in the student handbook, on the school website and it will be discussed at parent-teacher conferences in the elementary school

## **Evaluation**

Sonora Elementary School CAT will evaluate the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program. Surveys, classroom observation, assessment data, and other resources will be used to determine the needs and develop revised strategies for student success. 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.

## Concluding Statement

Sonora Elementary School is committed to the success of 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 the school board, administrators, principals, and other school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.

## Date

SISD Answers Policy Questions related to Approval of PI Policy

April 2010

➤ *Merely because the Title I, Part A statute uses the word “policy” in context of PI, it does not determine whether a district PI policy must be reviewed by the local school board. Whether such a “policy” must be reviewed is a local decision informed by the content of the document. Section 1118 (a)(2) of Title I describes what a Title I, Part A PI “policy” must include. If these are not the types of matters that a school board would normally review the mere fact that the statute uses “policy” would not be determinate. From our perspective a district may attach whatever label it likes to the document that describes PI opportunities. It must be in writing, however, and must be agreed to by parents of participating children. Further, a district must be able to implement its “policies” through whatever review and clear process the district requires.*

## Reminders:

1. Maintain documentation of the development, evaluation, and annual review of the written policy such as agendas, sign-in sheets (parents must be involved), and minutes.
2. The campus parental involvement policies shall be reviewed annually and modified as determined by your district. Parents must be involved throughout the development, evaluation, and review of the policies.
3. The district policy must be disseminated to parents of Title I, Part A children.
4. The Parental Involvement goal in the district improvement plan does not take the place of a written parental involvement policy.