



# **Forsan**

## *Independent School District*

*Dare to be Great*

### **School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*Forsan Elementary*  
*School Year 2019-2020*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Forsan Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Forsan Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school
- (C) Parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Forsan Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Forsan Elementary will review the Parent and Family Engagement Policy with the CIT committee to review and make changes as necessary.

### **ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Forsan Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Forsan Elementary will hold the Annual Title 1 meeting in conjunction with the first PAT group meeting of the school year. This meeting will be offered before school and in the evening. Parents will be invited by social media and letters sent home to parents. A power point will be used to cover the requirements of this meeting.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Forsan Elementary will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.

Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

Forsan Elementary staff will in conjunction with the Title I meeting offered in the fall, will provide a link to the Parent and Family Engagement Policy that will be posted online. The parents will also be given the option to have a printed copy of the policy sent home. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be added to the student handbook, posted on social media, and the information will be translated for EL students as needed. The communication of this information as well as other future meetings will be sent home through apps such as Bloomz and Remind 101 and/or notes sent home by teachers and staff.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Forsan Elementary will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Forsan Elementary will use the Campus Improvement Team to help discuss and develop the school-parent compact each year.

## **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If applicable, Forsan Elementary will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

Forsan ISD does not receive more than \$500,000 in Title I allocations, so this does not apply to our district.

## **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Forsan Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Forsan Elementary will continue to have ongoing relationships with community churches, West Texas Center for Mental Health/Metal Retardation, CPS, the Salvation Army and our local government officials and enforcement agencies. The elementary will also communicate to students and parents upcoming activities and sign-up dates for local youth organizations, making the school available for civic use and team practices during non-school hours by sending home notices and flyers.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Forsan Elementary will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's academic standards
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

Forsan Elementary teachers and staff will keep parents and guardians informed by sending home newsletters, posting information on the District's website, Bloomz, Remind, Twitter and Facebook, by sending home notes concerning campus-wide events, by providing school community information to our local newspaper, radio stations, and by providing access to a constantly updated Parent Portal. A parenting training will be provided with the topic chosen based on the parent survey.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Forsan Elementary will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

A training will be provided to discuss Title I requirements, tips on parent conferences, sending home information to parents and other information that is released that would be helpful throughout the school year. Information will also be shared throughout the year that would be helpful in getting parents more involved.