



## **Elias Herrera Middle School Parent & Family Engagement Policy**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parent and engagement policy that contains information required by Public Law 114-95 section 1116 (parent and family engagement policy) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Schools, in consultation with parents, are encouraged to include other relevant and agreed upon activities and actions that will support effective parent engagement and strengthen student academic achievement.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

- Consistent with section 1116, the school will work to ensure that the required school level parent and family engagement policy meets the requirements of section 1116 (a)(2) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and will be updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities 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 and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (United Independent School District).
- The school will 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 engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 % of the 1 % reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong parent engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.
- The school will provide other reasonable support for parent engagement activities under section 1116 of the ESSA as the parents may request through our parent surveys.

· The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition: Parent engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) that 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) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESSA.

## PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy must include a description of how the district will implement or accomplish each of the following components. [Section 1116, ESSA.] There is no required format for these descriptions. However, regardless of the format the district chooses to use, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy statutory requirements.

1. Elias Herrera Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parent engagement plan under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- Invite parents to revise and edit the EHMS Parent & Family Engagement Policy
- Final written plan will be reviewed for approval by our parent and SBDM committee

2. Elias Herrera Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- Present and disseminate the EHMS Parent & Family Engagement Policy to parents at a monthly parent virtual meeting
- Policy will also be made available at counseling center upon request
- Policy may also be viewed on the EHMS webpage (ehms.uisd.net)

3. Elias Herrera Middle School will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A Programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A Programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional parent engagement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend, by:

- Remind 101 Website calendar email
- School Messenger
- Place information on Marquee Post on Google Class Pages
- Counselor's Google Class Page
- Instagram

4. Elias Herrera Middle School will provide parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:

- Virtual parent meetings Parent / Teacher virtual conferences
- STAAR parent virtual meetings /in person meetings if possible

5. Elias Herrera Middle School will, at the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:

- Parent / Teacher conferences Parent & Family Engagement Policy Meeting
- Monthly parent meetings Parents invited to be a part of special programs committee
- Surveys issued after monthly meetings

6. Elias Herrera Middle School will provide each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:

- Student Report Card (to be accessed on the Texas Assessment Data Portal: <https://txparentportal.emetric.net>) ● PGP (if applicable)
- Parent/teacher conferences using DMAC data

7. Elias Herrera Middle School will take the following actions to provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002) by:

- A letter is sent home to parents
- Parents may request a conference with teacher/ counselor/or administrator

8. Elias Herrera Middle School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- the state's academic content standards,
- the state's student academic achievement standards, (ex: STAAR Night Parent Meeting) · 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: (Parent Learning Summit, Monthly Parent Meetings, Orientation Mtg.)
- Introduce and explain how to access Google Class, Tyler Parent Portal and other technology resources

9. Elias Herrera Middle School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Techie Nights / review the use of Chrome book/Google classroom
- Parent Learning Summit
- Virtual parent sessions-TBD

10. Elias Herrera Middle School will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Parental input on the EHMS Student/Parent/Teacher Compact
- Faculty Meetings-monthly
- Department Meetings-weekly
- Remind 101
- Teacher feedback thru email

11. Elias Herrera Middle School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent engagement programs and activities with Head Start, public preschool, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in participating in the education of their children, by:

- Links to parenting training sessions
- Parenting Partners Workshops-(leadership; ongoing)

12. Elias Herrera Middle School will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to 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:

- Google Classroom
- Emails sent home in English and Spanish
- School Messenger sent in English and Spanish
- Remind 101

### PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1116(e) of the ESSA:

- may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training; (surveys)

- may provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents; ex. Parenting Partners Committee
- may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, conduct virtual or conduct phone conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children in order to maximize parent engagement and participation in their children's education;
- may establish a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent engagement in Title I, Part A Programs; ( example: Parent Volunteers) ( Parenting Partners)
- may schedule an End of the Year activity for students whose parents attended 4 out of the 6 scheduled EHMS parenting sessions.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### PART IV. ADOPTION

This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with and agreed with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A Programs, as evidenced by our EHMS Parent Advisory Council. This policy was adopted by the United Independent School District on August 18, 2021 and will be in effect for the school year of 2021-2022. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 01, 2021.



Mr. Carlos Martinez  
Elias Herrera Middle School Principal