

Marti Elementary School
Our Kids Are Worth Whatever It Takes
2019-2020

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Marti Elementary School believes that by partnering with parents we can offer rigorous and relevant learning to help educate all students and develop both academic and social skills.

Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental involvement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements outlined in Title I law.

A. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

In September, Marti Elementary hosts an outdoor back-to-school event for families. During this event, campus leaders and PTA leadership explain programs and services available to students and their families. The Title I program is explained and parent input is encouraged. Follow-up to this meeting includes the distribution of the Title I brochure and School/Parent Compact.

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

Monthly parent involvement opportunities are provided throughout the year. In conjunction with the PTA, we offer a variety of programs and events to encourage parental involvement and strengthen the school-community relationship. Beginning in August, we host Meet the Teacher, Grandparents' Day Luncheon, Book Fair (with both day and evening availability), musical performances (both day and evening), Veterans' Day celebrations (both day and evening), Harvest Festival (Saturday), Christmas Event, Sock Hop (Saturday), Curriculum Nights, End of Year Celebrations and Graduations, Parent Education Events – Active Shooter Training, Internet and Social Media Safety, Emotional Support for Your Student – (both day and evening opportunities), and Field Trips.

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy;

Marti Elementary is committed to frequent communication with family stakeholders concerning student learning. Ways in which the staff communicate with families include; Cleburne ISD website, Marti Elementary website, Marti Elementary Facebook, Marti PTA Facebook, Backpack Mail, Closed Circuit TV in Lobby, Skyward Family Access, Elementary Student Handbook, Registration Packet, August Open House, Parent Conferences held every Fall, and Six Week Report Cards. Parents are also included on the campus site base committee that reviews campus goals, campus needs, future parent involvement activities, and the parent/school compact yearly.

4. Provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under this part; descriptions and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practically possible.

Marti Elementary will provide to all parents the grade level requirements for its students. STAAR testing schedule and assessment goals are available on the district web page. A required parent conference for all parents is conducted during the fall semester. State assessment and year-long educational goals are discussed with parents. These conferences are done both in person and by telephone to ensure all parents receive pertinent information concerning their child's progress. Additionally, parents are notified every three (3) weeks if a student is not mastering the specific coursework. Additional intervention and tutoring services are communicated to parents as well. Every six (6) weeks, report cards are distributed to parents. Skyward messages are sent to parents anytime that important information needs to reach parents. In addition, teachers have a daily conference period during which parents may request an individual meeting to discuss their child's progress. These appointments can be made by contacting the school office at 817-202-1650.

B. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

As a Title I campus, Marti Elementary consults with the Campus Site Base Committee to annually develop, review, and revise the school-parent 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 child's learning experience. The compact will address the best ways to maintain positive, timely communication between school and home. The compacts are available to all parents and families on the school website, at all parent functions, and in the campus office.

C. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part

- 1. Shall provide assistance to the parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;**

Marti elementary will hold an annual meeting during the fall semester of the new school year for all parents. At this meeting the Title I program requirements and guidelines will be discussed. Parent volunteers will be recruited to assist with various roles and responsibilities.

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

Parents will be advised that the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be evaluated yearly and the policy will be revised to meet the needs of the students' parents, and community.

- 2. Shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;**

Marti Elementary values the partnership of 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 school. Student achievement is the result of effective home-school-community partnerships. Throughout the

course of the year, the following capacity-building opportunities will be offered (these events are examples only, and should not be considered as all-inclusive):

- Grade level meetings;
- Parent/teacher conferences;
- ARD, 504, and Intervention meetings;
- Family events such musical performances and book fairs;
- Campus Site base meetings.

3. Shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals 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;

Marti Elementary values its community and works diligently with PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) to bring programming into the schools and to the families. These programs include Science Day for students, parent education programs, and Wrangler Partners (mentoring partnerships.)

In addition, staff professional development focuses not only on curriculum and instruction but on relationship building as well. Marti Elementary has been recognized as a National PTA School of Excellence for our community relationships and as a Capturing Kids' Hearts Showcase School nominee for our relational capacity with students and families.

4. Shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with community based early learning 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;

Family and Parent Activities aimed at building partnerships include but are not limited to:

- Meet the Teacher
- Open House
- Star Wrangler Awards Assemblies
- Veterans Day Celebration
- CISD Homecoming Parade
- Grandparents Day Luncheon
- Christmas Event
- Literacy and Curriculum Events
- Awards Assemblies
- Graduations and Celebrations

5. Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs,

meetings and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.

Marti Elementary will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school, parent programs, meetings, and other activities, are sent home 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. These may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Letters sent in home language

- Use of interpreter to communicate with parents and staff

- Networking with area agencies who provide interpretation services as necessary.

D. IN CARRYING OUT THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Marti Elementary is committed to the success of our students regardless of language, disabilities, or economic status. We will work together with parents to monitor the effectiveness of our Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Title I programs. We strive to provide excellence in education. This policy will be promoted by campus administrators, teachers, and other school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.