



## DUNWOODY SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*A Project Based Learning School*

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### Parent and Family Engagement Plan

*2019-2020*

*(Revised August 28, 2019)*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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 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).

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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 plan and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of 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 in places such as complex leasing offices, where permitted.
- 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

Parents attend our Annual Parent Input Meeting in the spring to review, revise and offer their input. The Parent and Family Engagement Plan is made available at the front desk, in the Parent Resource Center, as well as in some leasing centers of complexes within our district. Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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.

## JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The school will provide opportunities for all parents to engage in regularly scheduled meetings and provide on-going opportunities at the parent's request.

## ANNUAL TITLE I PARENT MEETING

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School conducts an Annual Title I Parent Meeting, which is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> for all grades this year, and encouraged and invited all parents to attend. Attendees were informed about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement plan, the schoolwide plan, and the school-family compact. Parents were invited to our Annual Title I Parent meeting via e-mail, flyer, and school website.

## COMMUNICATIONS

As part of our overall parental efforts, information concerning Title I selection criteria and parent notification of students' progress is provided throughout the year to foster ongoing communication and understanding. Also included are the following:

- Timely information about Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning and evening, and may provide with Title I funds, interpreter and such services that relate to parent and family engagement.
- Parents may call if transportation is a barrier and the school will assist, to the extent possible on a case by case basis, as needed.
- If there is an event that requires childcare, there is typically certified staff members assigned to childcare duties in the gym.
- Information related to the school and parent programs meetings, and other activities, send to the parents of all children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Information related to the school and parent program, meetings and other activities, in send to all parents via Blackboard and Parent Resource Center.
- Dolphin Dive – Introduce parents to classroom teacher and volunteer sign ups.
- Curriculum Night – Provide parents with information about the curriculum.
- Parent Resource Center Room A153– Provides parents with academic information and ways to help their child with reading language arts and math.
- Parent Workshops – Provide strategies and activities to help improve student literacy, math, science and test taking skills.
- Project Based Learning Exhibit Nights- Students present their projects to the family and community.
- Volunteer Days – Parents are invited to spend the day helping teachers prepare work.
- Parent Survey – Parents assess goals of various school programs.
- International Night – Parents and Staff share their cultural diversity with food, music and fashion contests.
- Ga milestones testing workshops.
- Progress reports and parent-teacher conferences.
- Bilingual Parent Liaison to help parents and families with limited English proficiency communicate what their needs and/or concerns are.

## SCHOOL-FAMILY COMPACT

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School will jointly develop with parents and families of participating children a school-family compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compacts will be reviewed and revised annually based on feedback from parents, teachers, and students. A parent input meeting will be held in the spring to provide parents the

opportunity for said input, therefore developing a partnership to help children achieve the challenging State academic standards. The compact will be distributed in multiple ways, and posted on the school website.

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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: holding a budget planning meeting at the beginning of the year providing parents with the opportunity to voice their opinion on how the budget is spent.

### **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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. We will provide transition feeder programs for outgoing 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade as well as “Kindergarten Roundup” meeting for rising kindergarten students and families.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School Educational research documents that parent and family engagement increase the success of students in academics, social and emotional development. It has been shown that when communication is continual, varied and involves both classroom content and individual information about students, parents are more likely to take part in suggested activities. Effective communication between home and school fosters a cooperative relationship that has positive effects on the student and school. 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 proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Provide Materials and training to help parents to work with their children 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.

Ongoing communication will continue between parents, students and the community. Additional provisions will include but not be limited to the following:

- Parent Resource Center Monday – Friday 8am -1:30pm.
- Involving Parents in training sessions to help child(en) with curriculum.
- Strengthening parent and community involvement through volunteer hours.
- Provide monthly parent workshops to train parents to work with their children to improve their child’s achievement in areas such as English/Language Arts, Math, and technology usage.
- Increasing communication between parents and teachers concerning student achievement bi-weekly.
- Take home folders, report cards and parent teacher conferences.
- How to monitor their child’s progress.
- How to work with educators.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children
- 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

### **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Dunwoody Springs Elementary School 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:

- Providing hour sessions with our instructional technology specialist to provide the teachers with different resources to use in the classroom such as Seesaw, Remind, and/or Class Dojo, among others.
- Having in person meetings with all school staff on building staff capacity using feedback from parents, as well as following up with emails throughout the semester on parent and family engagement.
- Parents are welcome to come to the Parent Resource Center- Room A153, to provide input on what they would like communicated to the school staff such as best ways of communication, study tools, etc., as well as assist in the production of building staff capacity presentations. Your input will be communicated to the administration team for review.

**PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS**

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Parent/Guardian Name(optional)\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(optional)\_\_\_\_\_

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