



## SCHOOL PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY MARTHA AND JOSH MORRISS MATHEMATICS & ENGINEERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2020-2021

Morriss Elementary understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and families 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

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

### A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Morriss Elementary will hold an Annual Title I Meeting for all parents in the beginning months of school. This meeting may be scheduled to coincide with other regularly scheduled meetings but will be well advertised so interested parents may plan to attend.

### B. FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Morriss Elementary will offer a flexible number of parent engagement meetings at convenient times for families.

### C. JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Parents will be involved in planning, reviewing and improving the Parent and Family Engagement Policy through a yearly review. All parents will have the opportunity to participate in this review. Morriss Elementary will meet with parents and stakeholders at the beginning of the year. During this meeting, attendees will receive information about the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan and will be informed of their right to be involved in the planning and development of the plan through meetings, surveys, and questionnaires. Parents and stakeholders may also submit comments on the plan to the school principal. The approved plan will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year and posted to the school's website. In addition to sending the Parent and Family Engagement policy home with students at the beginning of each school year and posting the policy in the school website, Morriss Elementary will make the policy available to parents at each campus meeting, parent conferences, family nights, and all other parent and community events.

### D. COMMUNICATION

Morriss Elementary will use a variety of communication avenues including student folders, social media, phone calls, parent conferences, parent meetings, family nights, the TISD automated phone system, and the district website to keep parents informed of information related to school and parent programs, students' expected proficiency levels, meetings, and other activities.

### E. DISSENSION PROCESS

Parents will have the opportunity to submit any comments/concerns to the Texarkana Independent School District Assistant Superintendent's office if the school-wide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents.

*Any comments/concerns can be sent to the Assistant Superintendent of Student and Community Development, Jo Ann Rice, at [joann.rice@txkisd.net](mailto:joann.rice@txkisd.net) or by phone at 903.794.3651.*

### F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Morriss Elementary will jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's and campus' high standards.

Morriss Elementary will hold an Annual Title I Meeting for all parents within the first few months of school. During the Title I Meeting, the jointly developed school compact will be reviewed and any needed changes will be discussed. In the spring of each year, Morriss Elementary will review this document and revise as necessary for the coming year. Using this method of updating the compact will allow feedback from students, faculty, and families in the spring and fall of each year.

#### **G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Morriss Elementary will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement. For the 2020-21 school year the following Parent and Family Engagement opportunities will be available to provide assistance to parents of children served by the school:

- Campus Title I meeting – Details about Title I services, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the School Compact will be discussed. Attendees will be asked to provide feedback.
- State Testing Overview - A brief overview will be given for parents of the required state assessments including information related to
  - the state's academic content standards,
  - the state's student academic achievement standards,
  - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
  - how to monitor their child's progress, and
  - how to work with educators.
- Family Nights - Several opportunities to gather will be provided and will focus on various content (reading, math, engineering, the 7 Habits).
- Campus Quality Improvement Council meetings - The CQIC will involve staff, parents and community members in the development of the campus improvement plan.
- Dyslexia and Autism parent and family nights and workshops - These events are scheduled at the district level and will provide parents with materials and resources to ensure student success.

**NOTE:** When appropriate, meetings may be held virtually and/or information be presented virtually.

#### **H. ACCESSIBILITY**

Morriss Elementary will ask parents to work within the community to garner support for events such as field day, family nights, parent workshops, parent conferences, and various other parent events. Surveys will be sent out to parents to gather input from parents regarding topics of need and to identify barriers to parent participation. Parent workshops will be held as needed to encourage parental involvement in academia. Family and community persons will be made aware of events/meetings through resources such as newsletters, media, and the school website. Parents as Partners in Education meetings will also be held. TISD will also maintain a district data site for parents to access student grades and attendance at any time. Our campus is open 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on weekdays excluding school holidays and welcomes feedback in the form of personal visits, conferences, emails, and phone calls. Please note, appointments are preferred so that parents may be offered our full attention.

#### **I. STATEWIDE INITIATIVE**

Texas has established a Parent and Family Engagement Initiative hosted by the Region 16 Education Service Center. The website is: <https://www.esc16.net/page/title1swi.home>.

The Department of the Assistant Superintendent of Student and Community Development at Texarkana Independent School District is responsible for assisting campuses with the review and publishing of this policy. Please contact Jo Ann Rice, at [joann.rice@txkisd.net](mailto:joann.rice@txkisd.net) or by phone at 903.794.3651 with any comments or suggestions. Please refer to [www.txkisd.net](http://www.txkisd.net) for information on how to become a volunteer, parent handbooks, calendars of school events, or talk to your school principal about opportunities to serve on committees or participate in other parent opportunities.