

# **Deer Park Independent School District**

## **District-Wide Parental Involvement Plan**

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

The Deer Park Independent School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the NCLB, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the NCLB.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the NCLB.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools 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 NCLB in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the NCLB, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one (1) percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety-five (95) percent of the one (1) percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement 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 1118 of the NCLB.

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

1. Deer Park Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the NCLB:

The district-wide parental involvement plan will be discussed and amendments made, if any, during a regularly-scheduled meeting of the Educational Improvement Committee (EIC) and/or PTO Round Table. The results of the annual evaluations on the effectiveness of parental involvement will be used during discussion of the plan. The district-wide parental involvement plan will also be presented during any other district-wide meetings involving parents in order to obtain any additional parental input on the plan. The plan will be posted on the district website for any additional parent input or comments.

2. Deer Park Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the NCLB:

The district will send information on academic assessments and adequate yearly progress home with each student to the extent possible, in a format and language

easily understandable by parents. This information will be posted on the district website. The information will also be disseminated and discussed at district-wide meetings involving parents: EIC and/or PTO Round Table.

3. Deer Park Independent School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

The district will meet with Title I campus administrators yearly to disseminate current information, documentation, forms, and guidelines for Title I schools regarding parental involvement. The district will meet with each Title I campus yearly to conduct a parental involvement training, which includes the necessary campus requirements for parental involvement, as well as strategies for effective parental involvement.

4. Deer Park Independent School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Family Literacy Program, TIC, TLC, PPCD, Co-op Programs with the Methodist Church and the Deer Park Community Center, and Pre-K, by:

The district will invite parents to participate in the same or similar activities conducted by the district and/or campuses. Invitations to programs, meetings and other activities will be posted on the district website, published in the local newspaper, and/or sent home with each student. These invitations will be in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language that the parents can understand.

5. Deer Park Independent School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency (LEP), have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

An annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the district-wide parental involvement plan will be discussed during a regularly-scheduled meeting of the Educational Improvement Committee (EIC) and/or PTO Round Table. The evaluation will be distributed during the meeting in questionnaire form to all participants, including parents. The results of the evaluation will be used to amend

the district-wide parental involvement plan, if necessary. The questionnaire will be presented during any other district-wide meetings involving parents in order to obtain any additional comments.

6. Deer Park Independent School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –

- the State's academic content standards,
- the State's student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators:

The district will assist parents in understanding such topics by conducting parent workshops where the topics and documents are discussed. Handouts will be distributed. These will also be discussed at the EIC and PTO Round Table meetings, as well as Campus Improvement Council (CIC) meetings and other campus meetings.

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, 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:

The district will provide materials and training by conducting parent workshops. These topics are also discussed at the EIC and PTO Round Table meetings, as well as Campus Improvement Council (CIC) meetings, campus PTO "report card" meetings, and other campus meetings. Campuses will conduct Family Literacy/Reading/Math/Science nights to assist with this type of training.

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in 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:

The district will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the district-wide parental involvement plan, which will be used to prepare/amend the parental involvement training (discussed in Part II, 3 above), which includes the necessary campus requirements for parental involvement, as well as strategies for effective parental involvement.

- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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:

The district will invite parents of students enrolled at the ECC to participate in the same or similar activities/workshops as parents from our other campuses. Parenting classes are provided for parents of certain programs at the ECC, along with transportation. The district also provides, in coordination with the ECC and the Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) English and GED classes to parents of all district students--both day and evening classes are offered so that more parents might be able to attend.

- E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that 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:

Invitations to programs, meetings and other activities will be posted on the district website, published in the local newspaper, and/or sent home with each student. At campuses with a high percentage of LEP students, information will automatically be sent home with each student in both English and Spanish. Whenever else possible, and to the extent practicable, this information will be provided in a language that the parents can understand.

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

Deer Park Independent School District conducts, in consultation with its parents, to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the NCLB:

- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.