

St. HOPE Public School 7 Parental Involvement Policy (Parent and Family Engagement Policy)

St. HOPE Public School 7 (PS7) is committed to working with parents and guardians to provide a high quality education for all students attending the school. It is only when students, parents, families, staff, teachers, administrators and the community are actively involved that students can continue to grow academically and as citizens.

We encourage all parents to be involved in their students' education as well as the overall school programs. To this end, PS7 has established, in conjunction with parent groups and with St. HOPE Public Schools Board of Directors approval, the following Parental Involvement Policy to provide parents the opportunity to be involved in creating policies, decision making, and taking an active role as advocates for all students at PS7.

To this end, PS7 shall:

Jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents and updated periodically that is approved by the local governing board (20 U.S.C § 6318[b][1])

- Review the policy annually with the school site council.
- Make the policy available via the school's website.
- Make the policy available by hard copy upon request.

Develop a school-parent compact jointly developed with parents that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement (20 U.S.C § 6318[d]) and includes:

- The school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][1]),
- The importance of communication between teachers and parents (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][2]) through conferences (elementary only) (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][2][A]), progress reports (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][2][B]), opportunities to volunteer and observe classrooms (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][2][C]), and ensure two-way communication between families and school staff (20 U.S.C § 6318[d][2][D])

Convene an annual Title I meeting (20 U.S.C § 6318[c][1], 6318[c][2]):

- Invite and encourage all parents of PS7 students to attend.
- Inform parents and family members of their school's participation in the Title I, Part A program and to explain the requirements, and the rights of the parents to be involved.
- Offer, to the extent possible, flexible meetings to encourage more parent involvement in the meeting.

Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvements of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school Parent and Family Engagement Policy (PS7 Parent Involvement Policy) and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan (Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)/Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)) (20 U.S.C § 6318[c][3]):

- Convene a School Site Council as required to:
 - Annually plan, review and revise as necessary the Parent Involvement Policy and recommend such policy to the St. HOPE Public Schools Board of Directors for annual approval.
 - Annually plan, review and revise as necessary the LCAP/SPSA and recommend such plan to the St. HOPE Public Schools Board of Directors for annual approval.

- Provide copies of the Parent Involvement Policy and LCAP/SPSA on the school's website as well as hard copy upon request.
- Provide parents with the opportunity to give input into the local plan via surveys, meetings and/or other means as feasible and practical.

Inform parents in a timely manner about the Title I Program ((20 U.S.C § 6318[c][4][A]):

- Convene an annual Title I meeting as above.
- Convene a School Site Council that meets regularly and holds meetings that are open to the public.
- Send appropriate notices to families regarding Title I requirements and program changes at the school site.

Provide a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards (20 U.S.C § 6318[c][4][B]):

- Provide information in the Student-Parent Handbook each year regarding academic requirements, grading and report cards, progress reports and online access to student academic information (via student information system parent portal), expectations for classroom behavior, and other.
- Provide timely notices of student assessments and results, including ELPAC and CAASPP testing as required by the state of California Department of Education.

Provide, 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 (20 U.S.C § 6318[c][4][C]):

- Create means for parents to voice their concerns and suggestions as needed. These means may vary depending on the area of concern and severity of the issue.

Provide parents with the opportunity to submit any parent comments on the schoolwide program plan (LCAP/SPSA) if the plan is not considered satisfactory when the school makes the plan available (20 U.S.C § 6318[c][5]):

- Directly request parent input into the plan as required per regulations in the development of the plan.
- Include the School Site Council in the review, revision and approval of the LCAP/SPSA.

Ensure effective involvement of parents to support partnerships among the school, parents and the community to improve student achievement (20 U.S.C § 6318[e]):

- Provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. (20 U.S.C § 6318[e][1])
- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement. (20 U.S.C § 6318[e][2])
- Educate teachers, support instructional staff, principals, other school leaders, and other staff, of the value and utility of the contributions of parents, and how to reach out to and communicate with parents as equal partners. (20 U.S.C § 6318[e][3])
- To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other state, federal and local programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. (20 U.S.C § 6318[e][4])

- The school 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 the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (20 U.S.C § 6318[e][5])(20 U.S.C § 6318[f])
- Provide other reasonable supports as requested ((20 U.S.C § 6318[e][14])

PS7 invites parents to engage in the academic, social and emotional growth of their students through and by:

- Back to School Nights
- Annual Title I meeting
- Convening a School Site Council
- Convening focus groups and round-table discussions on a variety of topics
- Requesting annual input on the LCAP/SPSA
- Annual parent survey
- Parent-student conferences
- Translated documents upon request or as required if 15% of the population speaks a single language other than English to allow for more full participation by ELL families
- Regular progress reports and access to the online parent portal to view grades and attendance
- Distribution of the School-Parent Compact and Parent Involvement Policy