

Dickinson ISD
Parent & Family Engagement Policy
PK-12
2021-2022

Dickinson ISD will equip and empower all learners with skills and experiences to achieve academic excellence and make meaningful contributions to our world. We are committed to the education of the students in our community. Parent and family engagement is an essential piece to ensure that our students are successful in school. When parents and families are more involved in the academic process, school becomes more of a priority for their children. The Dickinson ISD Board of Trustees, in collaboration with the administration, staff, and parents of Dickinson ISD will continue to focus on the importance of family involvement and community engagement in order to accomplish campus and district goals. Our district encourages meaningful collaboration with all stakeholders so that communication between home, school, and the community is continuous and open. We believe that an engaged and collaborative community creates an enriching environment for student development and achievement, which benefits all.

Dickinson ISD will reach out to all parents and family members and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in programs consistent with the requirements of ESSA Section 1116. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children. Section 1116 (a)(1). The district and each campus will utilize a variety of communicative techniques to create productive and equitable dialogue between home, school, and community. In order to build equitable and timely two-way communication, we will provide a variety of communicative measures through the following sources:

- Social Media
- Campus Newsletters
- Parent-Teacher Compacts
- District & Campus Websites
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Campus Family Nights
- Report Cards
- Campus and District Surveys
- PTO Meetings
- District Educational Improvement Committee
- School-Health Advisory Committee
- Progress Reports
- Skyward Messenger

Dickinson Independent School District receives Title I, Part A funds. Our goal is to plan and implement effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Therefore, Dickinson ISD will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. Section 1116 (a)(2)

- *The policy shall be incorporated into the district improvement plan developed under Section 1112.*
- *The policy will establish the districts expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement.*

Dickinson Independent School District will: involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan (DIP) under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d). Section 1116 (a)(2)(A) Title I regulations require that each district and campus served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental engagement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements outlined in Title I law. The District Educational Improvement Committee (DEIC) will meet a minimum of three times during the year in order to review, assess, and update the District Improvement Plan and the Parent Engagement Policy. The role of the committee is to provide input and recommendations that address the needs of the district and ensure all planned activities and initiatives reflect the district's mission, vision, goals, and long-range strategic plan. The Parent Engagement Policy will be made available to parents and the community through the District Handbook and on the Dickinson ISD website, in English and Spanish.

Dickinson Independent School District will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency, in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education. Section 1116 (a)(2)(B) Dickinson ISD will build partnerships with all stakeholders in order to promote effective parental and community engagement through communication and participation in order to accomplish the district's goals. Campuses in Dickinson ISD will educate staff, with the assistance of parents, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to implement and coordinate parent programs, and how to build ties between parents and schools, by providing professional development and district parent and family engagement trainings on each campus. Each campus within the district will be required to provide an annual meeting with parents to discuss the Title I, Part A requirements, school report card, Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), Title budgets, and expectations for achieving desired goals. The district will present in an open forum, the District Report Cards, Texas Academic Performance Report, and other pertinent data required by law.

Dickinson Independent School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and 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. Section 1116 (a)(2)(C) and Section 1116 (e)(4) Dickinson Independent School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies provided by the district under the following additional programs such as:

- *Gator Academy*
- *Lighted Windows, Open Doors*
- *Transition Youth Fair*
- *Youth Summer Program*
- *Math & Literacy Nights*
- *Gator Wellness Center at McAdams Junior High*

Dickinson Independent School District will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying— Section 1116 (a)(2)(D)

- *barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this Section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);*
- *the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers, and strategies to support successful school and family interactions.*

Campuses in Dickinson ISD will provide to parents and students an annual survey during the Spring Semester to evaluate the content and effectiveness of parent engagement. Results of the survey data will be discussed at the July Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The survey will include:

- Questions to evaluate the effectiveness of the campus
- Questions to determine if parent engagement is increasing
- Questions to identify barriers prohibiting participation by parents

Dickinson ISD will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies. Section 1116 (a)(2)(E) The District Education Improvement Committee will use the data from the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies.

Dickinson ISD will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy and provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this Section as parents may request. Section 1116 (a)(2)(F) and Section 1116 (e)(14)

Parent and Family Engagement at the school and district level is encouraged through the following committees:

- District Education Improvement Committee
- Campus Education Improvement Committee
- Parent Volunteer Programs
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- Special Programs Parent Advisory Committee
- Booster Clubs
- Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads on Patrol)
- Campus Site Based Activities
- District Safety Committee

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Dickinson ISD shall: Section 1116 (e)

(i) provide assistance to parents of children served by the local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of the parent and family engagement program, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. Section 1116 (e)(1) Campuses within Dickinson ISD will host a variety of family events to ensure parents have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the academic expectations of their child. The following are some examples of the family engagement opportunities offered:

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| STAAR Information Night(s) | Top 20 GALA | CCMR Recruitment |
| Academic Night(s) | Ascending Seniors Banquet | Special Olympics |
| Open House Events | Athletic/Fine Arts Banquets | Lighted Windows/Open Doors |
| Meet the Teacher | AVID Banquet | Red Ribbon Week |
| Career Day(s) | Greater Gulf Coast Blood Drives | District Health Fair |
| Grade Level Performances | March Madness through Reading | Campus College and Career Fair |
| GT Project Fair | Parent University | *Relay for Life |
| Project Graduation | 8 th Grade Parent Night | *Hosted by DHS AVID |
| Dickinson Railroad Museum Art Show | Pre AP Academic Night | |
| Galveston Bay Foundation Activities | Scholastic Book Fair | |
| AP Art Show at Public Library | DISD Product Fair | |

(ii) providing materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental Involvement. Section 1116 (e)(2) Campuses within Dickinson ISD will host a variety of events to ensure parents have the opportunity to gain an understanding of how to work with their children to improve their academic achievement. The following are some examples of the opportunities offered:

- Literacy Night
- Math & Science Night
- Read with your Students Nightly
- Technology Nights

(iii) educating 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. Section 1116 (e)(3) Dickinson ISD educates all stakeholders through the following opportunities:

- Staff Training on the Value of Parent Engagement
- EduHero Training Courses
- Transportation training through Special Programs
- Protégé Session on working with Parents
- Title I Parent Meetings
- Campus Improvement Planning Sessions

(iv) ensuring 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. Section 1116 (e)(5) Parents of all students, regardless of English proficiency, mobility or disability, are considered to be an important part of our learning community. All parents are afforded the opportunity to be involved in their child's school environment. For this reason, if a special need is identified that would help a parent to more fully understand the educational process and the academic progress of his/her child, assistance will be provided to that parent. This type of support often comes in the form of interpreted school documents in a parent's primary language, having an interpreter on hand to translate important information at school-wide meetings and events, working with an interpreter to provide translation in parent/teacher conferences, making available parent resources in our center that are in English and Spanish, participating in faculty and staff training to better understand the culture of the students served, and providing easier accessibility to parents and/or students with disabilities. The Dickinson ISD Language Access Plan ensures timely, meaningful access for limited English persons to all district programs and activities. All personnel shall provide free language assistance services to limited English individuals whom they encounter or whenever a limited English person requests language assistance services. All personnel will inform members of the public that language assistance services are available free of charge to limited English persons and that the district will provide these services to them. The District and Campus Improvement Plan, and the District and Campus Parent Engagement policies are available in English and Spanish on the Dickinson ISD website. The Dickinson ISD Internal Language Access Contact is Robert Cobb, Assistant Superintendent for Administration.

ADOPTION

This District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced through feedback received by District Educational Improvement Committee.

The school district will post this document on the district's website, and include a copy in the foyer of the Education Support Center in English and Spanish making it available to all parents for the 2021-2022 school year.

Please note: Individual Campus Parent and Family Engagement Policies have been developed and are available on their perspective webpage, as well as on the district webpage.

District Authorized Official:

Dr. Jeff Pack, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services