

Medina Valley Independent School District

District Wide Parental Involvement Policy

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The goal of our parental involvement program is school-home partnerships that will help all students in the district succeed. Administrators, teachers, school staff, parents, and community members will work together to establish effective partnerships. The MVISD and its schools will provide opportunities for the participation of all parents including limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. School and home must work together to realize higher student achievement. Ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication will occur to facilitate mutual understanding and to stimulate student success.

Grade level standards for the children of MVISD will be available to all parents in the district on the MVISD website and available in hard copy at all campuses and the Federal Programs & Grants office. Providing this information carries with it the expectation that all students will work toward these standards. We recognize that some students may need the extra assistance available through the Title I Program, as well as other programs, to reach these standards. MVISD intends to include parents in all aspects of the district's Title I Program, and other title programs.

MVISD will make every effort to include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title Programs and the Parental Involvement Policy.

The Medina Valley Independent School District will abide by all parental involvement statutory requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Medina Valley Independent School District Parental Advisory Committee is comprised of parents, community members, teachers and staff, and administrators. This committee will discuss and revise the design and implementation of the MVISD Parental Involvement Policy. The committee selections will represent the diversity of the student population of MVISD.

The advisory committee will convene at a time and place convenient to the majority of its members. The committee will meet at least once annually and schedule other meetings as necessary. If needed, campuses will provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits as these services relate to parental involvement.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Medina Valley Independent School District uses Title I funds to provide school-wide services for all elementary school students. Each MVIDSD Elementary School will hold at least one meeting annually to review Title I guidelines and services offered. Copies of the district's and campus' current Parental Involvement Policies and the School-Parent Compact will be distributed at the meeting. Parents will be encouraged to become involved in revising and updating Campus Parental Involvement Policy and the School-Parent- Compact. At this meeting parent volunteers will be recruited to serve on the various district and campus committees.

The meetings will be held at the campus at a convenient time. Notice of the meeting will be provided through written invitations to parents/caregivers and through public notices. To the extent possible, translators will be available to help with Non-English speaking parents/caregivers.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

In accordance with Title I regulations, each Medina Valley Independent School District Elementary School has developed and will update a school-parent compact. This compact will provide an outline to enable the school and parents/caregivers to share responsibility for student performance and success. This compact explains how students, parents/caregivers, and staff will share responsibility for promoting student achievement.

Students and parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact; they are also encouraged to sign that they are in agreement with the compact and return them to the school. NOTE: Parents and/or students are not required to return the compacts to the school.

MATCHING PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Each year Medina Valley Independent School District will assess the needs of parents and children in this community, through a variety of measures – including questionnaires sent home to parents – so that the Title I program will target the creation of a successful school environment.

Workshops and programs will be tailored to meet the unique student and parental needs of the community. Parents will be informed of involvement activity opportunities through the individual schools or may call the district at anytime to offer suggestions.

Parents may call the district office or their local school office at any time to express an interest in a particular sort of workshop or to make suggestions.

❖ **Parental Involvement Opportunities**

Medina Valley Independent School District values the partnership of the parents in their children's education. There are many ways parents can make significant contributions to student success both at home and by volunteering at the school. Student achievement is the result of effective home, school and community partnerships.

To this effect the Medina Valley Independent School District:

- **Shall** provide assistance to parents in how to monitor a child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve student achievement.
- **Shall** provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement.
- **Shall** provide training to teachers and school personnel on parental involvement with the assistance of parents to implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
- **Shall** provide information in a format and language the parents understand.
- **May** involve parents in the development of training for teachers
- **May** provide necessary literacy training to parents.
- **May** pay reasonable expenses associated with local parental involvement activities.
- **May** arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences.
- **May** develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations in parental involvement activities.

Parents of MVISD students are invited / requested to:

- Contribute through volunteer programs.
- Contribute by creating a supportive home environment.
- Participate by attending special programs/activities (award assemblies, track and field day, fine arts programs, book fairs, and others).
- Participate by attending School and District meetings (Title I, planning sessions, student programs).
- Serve on committees.(District Wide Advisory Committee (DWAC), Campus Performance Objective Committee (CPOC), Comprehensive School Health Advisory Council (CSHAC) and others)
- Reply to surveys to give their input about school.
- Eat meals with their children

STAFF AND PARENT COMMUNICATION

Parents will be welcomed through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. Newsletters, conferences, personal contacts, and written notes/notices will be utilized to establish and maintain open lines of communication. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher and to ask for a translator if needed. They may also call the school office and ask for a translator for conferences. To the extent possible, notices sent home will be in English and Spanish.

All staff members will be trained in positive communication activities as well as effective ways to work with parents and community members; parents will be asked to participate in these training sessions. Parents need to be reminded that many teachers are parents also.

EVALUATION

A district-wide Advisory committee will be involved in the process of school review and improvement. Parents of children in the Title I program will be part of this group.

There will be an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement program/policy using parental information gathered throughout the year. The evaluation will include an assessment of how much parental involvement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome. Medina Valley Independent School District will revise its Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

This commitment to family involvement has been approved by the School Board of Medina Valley Independent School District. The policy will be coordinated by Federal Programs and Grants staff and teachers throughout the district and promoted by building principals and other school staff.