

SONORA ISD

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The Sonora Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of the SISD family engagement plan.

The Sonora Independent School District will ensure that families can be engaged in their child's education. The SISD was jointly developed with parents of SISD students and ensures that parent representatives from the elementary, middle school, and high schools, along with school administrators and teachers will be appointed to serve on the District Planning Committee as an effort to involve parents in the continued review and development of this document.

Working Together to Improve the School for all Children

Each campus with the SISD is required to include parent representatives in the process of school review and improvement.

The campus planning committees, conducted with the joint participation of parents, will review student performance, assessments and proficiency levels, and education and intervention programs implemented at the campus level. In addition, this committee will develop and/or revise the campus parent involvement policy and the school-parent compact that outlines how parents and the school staff will share the responsibility for student achievement, both of which are distributed to parents at the beginning of each school year.

This committee will also be tasked in designing the parent involvement program for its campus. Activities in this program should include any training offered to parents, programs available to assist parents, and meetings scheduled at the school. Activities will also be developed to encourage parents interaction with their children. These activities may include:

- Family literacy nights
- Parent Appreciation Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Fall festival
- Back to School and Meet the Teacher events
- Open house.

Parent representatives are active members of the campus planning committees and are encouraged to give suggestions for improvements. The SISD will ensure all parent representatives have a voice in the meetings and are engaged before decisions are made.

SISD views all parents as partners in their child's education. Parents will receive frequent reports concerning their child's educational progress. Report cards will be sent home at the end of each six-weeks period and progress reports will be sent home at the three-week period in between. An online portal will be available for parents to access to review their child's grades and attendance at all times.

Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled twice a year to review student progress. Materials will be provided to parents to use at home to support their child's academic performance.

Reasonable Access to School Staff

Parents will have reasonable access to school staff. All staff members and administrators are available by phone, e-mail, and in person during designated times. Teachers have a conference period scheduled during which time they can speak with, or meet with, parents. Teachers may make themselves available after school, but parents should be aware that they are not required to stay after school hours beyond ten minutes.

Parents may contact school staff members through a phone call to the main campus office or e-mailing the teacher or staff member. Appointments may be scheduled to meet with staff members directly through the main office or by means on the contact methods previously mentioned. The teacher and parent will seek to find a meeting time that works well for each parties schedule and does not disrupt instruction.

In addition to other requested meetings with teachers, parents may speak with teachers during the bi-annual parent-teacher conference.

School staff will respond by the close of business the day after a parent makes a request. If a parent asks for a meeting, the staff member will respond with this time frame to schedule it. The meeting should be scheduled within a week or at the earliest possible convenience of everyone involved.

Opportunities to Volunteer and Participate in School Activities

Parents will be provided with opportunities to volunteer with the school and participate in their child's classroom activities. These opportunities may include activities such as:

- Classroom volunteer
- Reading volunteer
- Assistance in the library
- Fundraising
- Field trips
- Family nights
- Class parties
- Distribution of materials and supplies
- Other activities identified by teachers or school staff members and communicated to their campus principal.

Information will be provided to parents when the need for volunteers arises. Parents may also speak with the campus principal to inquire about specific volunteer opportunities.

Correspondence with Parents

All notification provided to parents instructional programs, student progress, scheduled meetings, and school activities will be provided in a language they can understand.

If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Taylor, Director of Special Programs, as 325-387-6940, ext. 3400.