



# Longview ISD

## Parent & Family Engagement Policy

[www.lisd.org](http://www.lisd.org)

## **Overview**

Longview Independent School District (LISD) in Texas is committed to fostering strong partnerships between the district, schools, and families to enhance the educational experience of all students. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy is designed to meet state and federal requirements, ensuring that parents and stakeholders are actively informed and involved in their children's education.

### **Purpose:**

The primary aim of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy is to create a collaborative environment where parents and families are empowered to support their children's academic success. This policy outlines the district's commitment to:

1. **Meeting State and Federal Requirements:** Ensuring compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines.
2. **Enhancing Communication:** Providing clear, timely, transparent, and accessible communication between schools and families.
3. **Promoting Involvement:** Encouraging active participation of parents in school activities, decision-making processes, and educational support initiatives.
4. **Supporting Student Achievement:** Leveraging family engagement as a key factor in improving student academic outcomes and overall school performance.

By adhering to this policy, Longview ISD demonstrates its dedication to nurturing a supportive and inclusive educational environment. This proactive approach not only fulfills state and federal mandates but also strengthens the bond between the district, schools, and families, ultimately contributing to the academic success and well-being of all students.

## State Definition: Parent and Family Engagement

Families, community members, and educators work together in an equal and respectful partnership to create and provide effective, systemwide support for student learning and development from early childhood into college, a career, or the military.

### This home-school collaboration is evidenced when...

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and may serve on committees to assist in the education of their child.

The written Parent and Family Engagement Policy is another critical requirement for Title I, Part A program. School districts and Title I, Part A schools are both required to have written parent and family engagement policies in place.

### Who Needs a Written Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

Every LEA, also known as school districts, receiving Title I, Part A funds and every school receiving Title I, Part A funds, schoolwide and targeted assistance, are required to develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The policy shall be developed with, distributed to, revised, and reviewed with parents.

- **Local Educational Agency Parent and Family Engagement Policy:**

Each local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency's plan developed under section 1112, establish the agency's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, and describe how the agency will — (A) involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d). ESSA 1116 (a)(2)(A).

- **School Parent and Family Engagement Policy:**

Each school served under this part shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of subsections (c) through (f). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. ESSA 1116 (b)(1).

### Policy versus Plan

In section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the words “policy” and “plan” are used. In statute, the LEA (school districts) *Plan* is referenced in section 1112 while the Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) *Policy* is referenced as being a section of the LEA Plan. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) does not require the usage of one word over the other regarding what is referenced in ESSA as the *PFE Policy* due to the generalization that “policies” need approval by a governing body. To meet the intent of the federal law, the PFE Policy does not have to be approved by any governing body *unless* local law requires it. The document must be easily

discernable as well as meet all requirements set forth by the federal government in section 1116 of ESSA.

## **Statement of Beliefs**

1. Every individual has intrinsic worth and is able to contribute to society.
2. Every student has a right to a high-quality, equitable education.
3. Every individual has the ability to learn and an innate desire to succeed.
- 4. A safe, healthy, and orderly environment is critical for learning.**
5. A community holding high academic expectations will reap educational, economic, cultural, and societal benefits.
- 6. High morals, strong character, and personal integrity are essential for the betterment of society.**
7. Honoring diversity and building on individual strengths contribute to growth.
- 8. School-Community partnerships are vital for success.**
9. Change is essential for continuous improvement.
10. Every learner must be prepared to compete globally.
11. Education immeasurably enriches quality of life.
12. Learning is a life-long quest.

# Longview ISD Parent Policy

*2024-25 school year*

Parent & Family Engagement (PFE) Program	
<b>What is it?</b>	<p>Longview ISD is committed to our vision: Every student matters and serves a purpose. We strive to provide high-quality education individualized for each student by developing and maintaining relationships with families and the community. One way we continue to do this is by participating in the Title I, Part A State Program. This program provides funding for low socioeconomic schools. In return, we promise to meet the expectations laid out for us by the Texas Education Agency and the United States Department of Education.</p>
<b>Expectations &amp; Objectives</b>	<p>Parents and families are a child’s first teacher. They imitate you from the moment they are born. Therefore, a mutually beneficial relationship between school and home is in the best interest of every child. The expectation of our PFE Program is to foster communication and decision-making with parents about student performance and to collaboratively support learning. Our objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Effective two-way communication between school and home which is linked to a higher completion rate on homework, better attention during instructional tasks, increased participation by all parties, and improved interactions and relationships between parents, teachers, and students.</li> <li>➤ If a child’s parents are more involved in school experiences, the child is more likely to have higher grades, improved behavior, better attendance, higher social skills, and adaption.</li> <li>➤ Learning together leads to better school and home life.</li> <li>➤ Being a life-long learner can prevent some health issues that often occur later in life.</li> </ul>
<b>Longview ISD will:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Have a Principals meeting to discuss Parent and Family Engagement policy needs, events and activities at different campuses, and collaboration opportunities to serve families and fulfill state guidelines. <i>(Completed on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Sign in sheet kept in file).</i></li> <li>➤ Meet with district parents to elaborate, plan, develop, evaluate, and revise support and school improvement plans, parent and family engagement policy, and events. Parents from various PTAs will be contacted by the Community &amp; Family Engagement Coordinator to be a part of this meeting. The campus administrators will provide the contact information of the parents. <i>(Completed on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Sign in sheet and minutes kept in file).</i></li> <li>➤ Hold quarterly meetings to seek input from community members, and educators. <i>(Completed in May and August 2024. Sign in sheets kept in file).</i></li> <li>➤ Distribute the PFE Policy, this document, to parents and the communities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Posting it on our district website, and keeping it up to date. Additionally, it will be accessible in less than 5 min.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Have a representative at every school’s annual Title I meeting.</li> <li>➤ Have a representative at every school PFE event.</li> <li>➤ Per an open records request, provide the qualifications of a child’s teacher</li> <li>➤ Assist schools in the evaluation and revision of their PFE policy and school-parent compact.</li> <li>➤ Evaluate the District Parent and Family Program and its policy throughout the year and revise it as needed.</li> <li>➤ Host events and activities at every campus that will enhance parent and family engagement.</li> <li>➤ If needed and requested, provide training to every district employee on the most effective PFE strategies.</li> <li>➤ Meet with district parents who were part of the policy development for an annual evaluation of the PFE program.</li> </ul>

## Family Activities

Family activities are opportunities for family members to come learn, have fun, and experience wonderful memories that will benefit their children's academic journey and future. The schedule and locations listed below are subject to change. Updated times and dates will be included during event /activity promotion via email, all call, or Facebook.

- "Meet the Teacher" nights at every campus starting August.
- **October:** 1) Hispanic Heritage Celebrations district wide (Spanish speakers)
  - Dates: Oct 6 – Oct 17
  - Time: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
  - Locations: All Campuses2) Resource Fair for Parents
  - Date: Oct 8th
  - Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
  - Location: Judson STEAM Academy

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will partner with Communities In Schools site coordinators and campus administrators to organize these events for parents. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will invite representatives of at least 15 local nonprofits that provide community resources in healthcare, mentoring programs, and basic needs. Invitations to parents promoting these events will be sent out via email and through an all-call.

- **November:** School Safety Night for Parents w/ First responders (Eng & Span speakers)
  - Date: TBD
  - Time: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM or 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
  - Location: TBD

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will work the District Safety Coordinator and the High School to put this event together for families. This one-hour event will give parents the opportunity to hear representatives from LISD, LPD, Fire Department, etc. how we have implemented safety measures across the district and also give them the opportunity to ask questions and address topics that may concern them.

- **December:** Christmas Toy Swap at ETMPA and Elementary campuses. Please see locations, dates, and times below (Subject to change).
  - Bramlette - Monday, December 9th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - Ned E Williams - Tuesday, December 10th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - WARE - Wednesday, December 11th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - JMQ - Thursday, December 12th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - JLE - Friday, December 13th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - Bailey - Monday, December 16th - 9:00am - 2:30pm
  - Hudson PEP -Tuesday, December 17th - 9:00am - 2:30pm

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will work with the Communities In Schools site coordinators, PTA's, and principals at each campus, to execute the Christmas Toy Swaps. This was done last year at WARE and it was a huge success. It takes collaboration but it is very rewarding. We will ask for our community partners, staff, and parents to participate in donating toys to a campus to ensure every student leaves with at least one toy. The C&F Engagement Coordinator and Principal of each campus will send out invitations to parents promoting the event through flyers, via email, and through an all-call.

➤ **January:** 1) Fitness Night for ETMPA & Elementary School Parents (English and Spanish speakers)

- Date: Wednesday, January 10th or 17th

- Time: 5:00 PM - 6:45 PM

- Location: ETMPA (subject to change)

2) Fitness Night for Middle & High School Parents (English and Spanish speakers)

- Date: Thursday, January 11th or 18th

- Time: 5:00 PM - 6:45 PM

- Location: Forest Park Middle School

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will work with the PTA's and principals at each campus, the LISD Health & Wellness team and the parent volunteer team to execute this fitness night. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will invite representatives from different gyms and health & wellness facilities in our area to set up a table and bring a door prize for drawings. Zumba and yoga instructors (volunteers) will be on campus. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will send out invitations to parents promoting the event via email, and through an all-call.

➤ **February:** College Fair for Parents (Eng & Span speakers)

- Date: Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> (subject to change)

- Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

- Location: Judson STEAM Academy (subject to change)

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will work with the principal at Judson SA, and the LHS College & Career Center to execute this event. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will invite representatives from different colleges and universities across East Texas to set up a table and bring a door prize for drawings. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will send out invitations to parents promoting the event via email, and through an all-call.

➤ **April:** Community Resource (Nonprofits) Fair for Parents (Eng & Span speakers)

- Date: TBD

- Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

- Location: TBD

**Implementation:** The C&F Engagement Coordinator will work with the principal at Foster, the parent volunteer team, and community partners to execute this event. Both gyms and the cafeteria will be occupied for the fair. Nonprofits from around the area will have representation at the fair. We will contemplate the possibility of having 2 food trucks at the back of the school during the fair. The C&F Engagement Coordinator will send out invitations to parents promoting the event via email, social media, and through an all-call.

## Written Parents and Family Engagement Policy FAQ

For Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to TEA's Title I, Part A FAQ document. This document can be accessed at the following link: <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/T1AFAQ.pdf>

### Bibliography

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U.S. Department of Education. (n.d.). *Education Code*.





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