

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY SAN SABA ISD**

### **Statement of Purpose**

Goal VII of the San Saba ISD District Improvement Plan states: **The district will involve parents as active partners in the education of their children.**

Parent involvement (as defined by the National PTA) is the participation of parents in every facet of the education and development of children from birth to adulthood, recognizing that parents are the primary influence in their children's lives. Parent involvement takes many forms, including parents' shared responsibilities in decisions about their children's education, health and well-being, as well as parent's participation in organizations that reflect the community's collaborative aspirations for all children. Parents help their children have success in school by daily...encouraging, listening, monitoring, praising, reacting and discussing, not necessarily "teaching" school subjects.

Involvement should not be limited to volunteering or attending school-sponsored events. The broad view of involvement affirms that parent's role as the child's primary teacher and the home as the child's first classroom (Barbour, 1966). Involving every family in a child's education is an important piece of improving that child's learning, according to research by Joyce Epstein, director of the Center for School, Family, and Community Partnerships at John Hopkins University in Baltimore.

### **Parent Involvement in Developing District Policy**

Parents, members of the community, teachers, and principals will meet to develop our school district's parent involvement policy.

### **Current District Involvement Strategies and Activities:**

1. Parents are members of the district site-based decision-making committee.
2. Annual meetings are held at each campus explaining Title I programs at that campus.
3. Parents are members of the Student Health Advisory Committee.
4. Parents and district staff are surveyed for feedback on the current state of parent involvement in our district and at their campus.
5. Appropriate funds for reasonable parent involvement activities will be budgeted.
6. A memorandum of understanding with the Head Start program is in place.
7. The state assessment schedule is posted on the website of each campus.
8. A brochure, available in English and Spanish, explaining Title 1 and Title I programs in the district and at each campus, is sent to parents.
9. A hard copy and/or electronic version of the student handbook is provided to all students.
10. Access to e-mail addresses of teachers is available through the district web site.
11. Individualized access to additional classroom content is available through the district and campus web sites.

12. Information for parents, including student activities, district and campus improvement plans, and accountability reports, is updated on the district web site on a regular basis.
13. Parents are offered access to their child's grades through "Parent Connection" on the district web site.
14. Parent involvement newsletters that share ideas with parents on dealing with various issues with their child are posted on the district web site.
15. The Superintendent's office furnished a "Newsletter" to all campuses.
16. Each campus hosts an open house night in the fall and spring.
17. Teachers have planned conference times to meet with or call parents during the school day.

### **Staff/Parent Communications**

Information is sent home with children periodically. Phone calls, conferences, and home visits will be made as needed. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in contacting their child's teacher when they are concerned about their child's education. They may also call the school office and ask for a translator for a conference.

### **Annual Meeting for Title 1 Programs**

Annual meetings are held at each campus providing parents with the guidelines regarding Title 1 and the various programs funded through this program. Parents will be given the opportunity to have input on the parental involvement policy. These meetings will be publicized through lines of communication established at each campus. Title 1 information and educational opportunities are also sent to homes annually at the beginning of each school year.