



# Houston Elementary School 2019-20 Parent & Family Engagement Policy



**Houston Elementary School**  
3100 Teasley Lane  
Denton, TX 76205  
(940) 369-2900

## Purpose of the Policy

Because school age children spend 70% of their waking hours (including weekends and holidays) outside of school, parental involvement and engagement is essential to the success of children in school. While volunteering at school is beneficial, and attending parent-teacher conferences, school events, and parent involvement activities are important, "the most significant type of involvement is what parents do at home. By monitoring, supporting and advocating, parents can be engaged in ways that ensure that their children have every opportunity for success." Involvement encompasses: setting goals with children and fostering achievement of those goals, accessing and using children's academic scores to ensure they're on track, frequently viewing the parent portal, developing a relationship with children's teachers and keeping in touch with them often, and advocating for improvements in the school building and with local, state, and federal officials to ensure schools have the resources they need to provide a world class education to every student."



## Parental Involvement Research

Extensive research demonstrates "a positive and convincing relationship between family involvement and benefits for students, including improved academic achievement. This relationship holds across families of all economic, racial/ethnic, and educational backgrounds and for students at all ages. The benefits for students include:

- higher grade point averages and scores on standardized tests or rating scales,
- enrollment in more challenging academic programs,
- more classes passed and credits earned,
- better attendance,
- improved behavior at home and at school, and
- better social skills and adaptation to school."



# Ways to Be Involved and Engaged in Our Schools

- Ready Rosie is an online resource for parents that offers instant, interactive, and consistent parent-child engagement activities aligned to our reading and math curriculum. These programs are provided by Denton ISD at no charge to parents whose child(ren) attend campuses that receive Title I funds. Ready Rosie is designed to serve children from birth to third grade. If you've ever asked, "How can I help my child at home?" this is THE resource for you!



- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Attend Sam Houston activities with your child.
- Volunteer at Sam Houston. Contact Mrs. Andress for more details.
- Join and/or serve on the Sam Houston Parent-Teacher Association (PTA).
- Help your child utilize online resources such as Imagine Math (K-5), Imagine Math Facts (K-5), I-Station (2-5), and Stem Scopes (5th) from home to support their learning.
- Access the resources available on the Houston Library webpage and Student Portal with your child to support their learning.
- Donate gently used children's books to the school so they can be used in classroom libraries and given to children who do not have many books at home.
- K & 1 parents; View videos on your child's Grade Level Webpage to learn ways you can support your child's learning.
- Read with your child and talk about the content of what was read. Research shows that just 20 minutes per day of reading exposes children to 1.8 million words per year. Great way to invest in your child's brain growth!
- Talk, read, and play with your child(ren). Talking about anything leads to learning about everything. Readers get their start on the lap of a parent. Playing ignites learning, creativity, and curiosity.

TalkReadPlay

## Development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

According to the Every Student Succeeds Act, "Each local education agency (LEA) shall develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy." Additionally, each school served under Title I 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." Further, each school shall "involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy." This brochure is our way of informing parents of our family engagement policies.

## Title I Annual Meeting

Each school served under Title I shall "convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved."

## School-Parent Compacts

Each school served under Title I shall "jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards."

## Districtwide Program Plan

Each local education agency is required to involve parents and family members in jointly developing the LEA plan (i.e. district improvement plan). Further, each school served under Title I shall "involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the joint development of the schoolwide program plan." Parent representatives serve on our Educational Improvement Council (EIC) and assist in the development of the district improvement plan; and parent rep-



**Denton ISD: Empowering lifelong learners to be engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global community.**

