



# Texas Education Agency No Child Left Behind State Parent/Family Involvement Plan



## **Mission:**

The mission of the state public education system is to ensure that all Texas children have access to a quality education that enables them to achieve their potential and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic, and educational opportunities of our state and nation. (TEC § 4.001. PUBLIC EDUCATION MISSION AND OBJECTIVES)[PL 110-107 Section 1118]

## **Vision:**

Parents, families, educators, and community members work together as full partners, hold themselves mutually accountable, and have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in improving achievement for all students.

## **Principles:**

To achieve this vision we embrace these principles:

- Parents, families, educators, and communities are accountable for improving student achievement by supporting parent/family involvement.
- The Texas Education Agency monitors this shared responsibility and provides an annual report of progress to the public.
- Schools provide a welcoming, trustful, and engaging environment.
- Through ongoing training, the Texas Education Agency, institutions of higher learning, education service centers, local education agencies, campuses, parent-teacher organizations, and community organizations build the capacity of parents/families and educators to act as full partners, informed decision-makers, and effective advocates for children.
- Schools and school systems respond to such barriers as language, culture, education levels, and work schedules of parents/families that may limit opportunities to participate fully in the education of their children.
- Parents/families support their child's learning at home and in school and serve as their child's advocate.
- Parents, families, educators, and community members advocate for all children.

**Goals:****I. Communication**

The Texas Education Agency:

- encourages LEAs to promote regular, two-way communication between home and school.
- encourages LEAs to promote a safe and open atmosphere for parents/families to visit the school their children attend and actively solicit parent/family support and assistance for school programs.
- collects effective parent/family involvement practices and disseminates them to all local education agencies (LEAs) and education service centers.
- communicates, using varied methods, media, resources, and languages, the rights and responsibilities of parents/families to develop and respond to education policy, procedures, and practices at the state, local, and campus levels.
- encourages LEAs to develop parent information and outreach centers.
- ensures that LEAs disseminate information to parents on all required notifications.

**II. Accountability**

The Texas Education Agency:

- ensures parent/family involvement practices meet the highest professional and technical standards.
- reviews the parent/family involvement policies and practices of LEAs to determine if the policies and practices meet the requirements of PL 107-110 Sec. 1118.

**III. Partnership**

The Texas Education Agency:

- collaborates with parents, families, school staff, and community members to ensure all children receive a high quality education.
- supports the development of trusting and respectful relationships among parents, families, educators, and community members.
- ensures all parents/families are supported as concerned and involved partners, regardless of income, education, or cultural background, who want children to learn and achieve at high levels.
- works with LEAs to ensure that parents are full partners in decision-making and on advisory committees, as appropriate, to assist in the education of their child.

#### IV. Promote Active Involvement

The Texas Education Agency:

- ensures that LEAs accommodate barriers that may limit parent/family opportunities to participate fully in the education of their children.
- fosters attainment of high parent/family involvement standards that reduce barriers to greater participation by parents/families in school planning, review, and improvement.
- encourages LEAs to ensure that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

#### V. Training for Educators and Parents/Families

The Texas Education Agency:

- develops the capacity of LEA staff to work with parents/families.
- ensures that LEAs build the capacity of parents/families to participate in meaningful ways in the education of their children.
- supports programs that help parents/families guide children's learning from preschool through high school (i.e. literacy, study skills, technology applications).
- ensures that the LEA assesses parent/family and community involvement training needs and provides appropriate technical assistance training, resources, and mentoring.
- encourages LEAs, education service centers, colleges, universities, community organizations and agencies to develop and offer professional development on parent/family involvement for current teachers, administrators, and other school staff.
- ensures that LEAs include parent/family and community involvement measures in their local assessment of training needs.
- encourages colleges and universities to develop coursework in parent/family and community involvement for all undergraduate students seeking teaching certification in Texas.
- ensures that LEAs offer parent/family learning workshops on relevant topics to be held at convenient times and places easily accessible to all families.

#### VI. Community Resources

The Texas Education Agency:

- encourages LEAs to support parental/family involvement and to build strong connections among schools, local businesses, community organizations, and agencies.

- encourages LEAs to collaborate with local businesses in identifying and implementing education-friendly practices.

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