



Menard High School's Parent Involvement Policy

Basic Elements of Menard's Parental Involvement Policy:

- Purpose
- Development of the Policy
- Annual Meeting
- School-Parent Compacts
- Programs and the School Community
- Staff-Parent Communication
- Evaluation
- Funding

Purpose

Menard High School believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Therefore, Menard High School will maximize its resources to enable each child to become a successful learner. A key resource is its people: administrators, teachers, school staff, parents, and community members. We will work together to establish effective partnerships; together everyone achieves more. School and home must work together to realize higher student achievement. Ongoing, two-way, meaningful communication will occur to facilitate mutual understanding and to stimulate student success. Letters will be mailed home to students with three week and six week reports. Each month the principal will also be sending parents important information on a variety of topics.

Menard High School will provide to all parents the grade level goals for its students. Menard High School will also publish TAKS and STAAR testing schedule and assessment goals. Those students that need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals. This will include tutorials. The students will also be offered a TAKS acceleration class.

Menard High School will make every effort to include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title I Program and the Parent Involvement Policy. The school-parent compact will describe the responsibilities of key stakeholders and useful channels of communication. The goal of our parental involvement program is student success.

Developing the Policy

An advisory committee will be formed consisting of two parents, two community members, four teachers and staff, and a principal to develop and revise the Menard High School Parent Involvement Policy. The need for volunteers to serve on this committee will be opened up and then volunteers will be selected. The parent volunteers will represent the diversity of the student population, and one or more of the parents will have children participating in the Title I program. The advisory committee will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members. The members will be notified about the meeting.

Annual Meeting

Menard High School will hold an annual meeting during the first six weeks of the new school year for all parents. At that meeting the Title I program will be described, the Parental Involvement Policy will be distributed and reviewed, and opportunities for parental participation will be explained. Parent volunteers will be recruited to serve on the Campus Advisory Committee.

The annual meeting will be held at a time that is convenient for parents, and a translator will be present at the meeting. Parents will be informed about the meeting in the newspaper and notices sent home in three week reports.

Since the goal of Menard High School is student success, the expectations for school performance, individual student assessments, and grade level curriculum will be provided in a format parents can understand.

Parents will be advised that the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program will be evaluated annually and the policy will be revised to meet the needs of the students, school, parents, and community.

Parent School Compacts

The Title I school of Menard High School will consult with each school's Parent Advisory Committee to annually develop, review and revise the school-parent compact. The compact will identify the responsibilities of the staff to provide high-level curriculum and instruction, and the expectations of the parents to provide support in their children's learning. The compact will address the best ways to maintain positive, timely communication between school and home the compacts will be available to all parents and families in the packet that comes home with the student handbook and on the school website.

Programs and the School Community

Annually Menard High School will assess the needs of the parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools including a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs. Workshops or other training will be made available to educators and parents to address these needs. Parents will be notified about training opportunities.

Staff-Parent Communication

Menard High School will communicate with parents on a regular basis. A Title I newsletter will be distributed and put on the district website monthly. Important information will be provided in the student handbook, the school-parent compact, and on the district website. Frequent notices about student performance will be mailed home or provided by phone calls, e-mails, conferences, and in-home visits. In so far as possible all communication will be provided in a language and format the parents can understand. Parents are encouraged to contact the school or the child's teacher when questions or problems arise. The school will also focus on positive contacts.

Evaluation

Menard High School will work with its Title I Advisory Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the Parental Involvement Program. Surveys, classroom observation, assessment data, and other resources will be used to determine the needs and develop revisited strategies for student success. Parental input will be sought. Revisions to the Title I program and the Parental Involvement Policy will be developed and agreed upon with parent input will be communicated to the parents in the district.

Funding

Menard ISD is required to set aside at least 1% of its Title I funds for the purposes of parental involvement. Those funds will be divided among the Title I campuses. The campus principal will consult with the Title I Advisory Committee about allowable uses of the funds. The campus principal will then authorize the use of the fund designated for parental involvement.

Concluding Statement

Menard ISD is committed to the success of students. We will work together with parents to monitor the effectiveness of our Parental Involvement and Title I programs and to

provide excellence in education. This policy will be promoted by the school board, administrators, principals, and other school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.

Date of Board Approval

June 13, 2012