



Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024

School South Pine Academy

I. Parent and Family Engagement Policy

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B. The administration, staff and parents of South Pine Academy believe that the improved academic achievement of each student is a responsibility shared by the entire school community, including the school district, school, community members, school administration, staff, students, and parents (as defined for purposes of this policy to include guardians and all members of a student's family involved in the student's education). Our Parental Involvement Policy outlines the parent involvement activities that will be conducted during the school year. Our Parental Involvement Policy was designed by a school-based team of administrators, teachers, teacher assistants, parents, and PTO members.

II. Annual Information Meeting/Curriculum Night

A. We will hold our Annual Title I Review/Back to School Night on September 21, 2023. This meeting will give parents the opportunity to learn about the Pre-K- 5th grade curriculum and provide input for school improvement and parent involvement initiatives we have as a Title I School. This meeting will also provide information regarding:

- A description and explanation of the curriculum, assessment forms, and proficiency levels and state standards.
- An explanation of our instructional program
- A discussion of the importance of homework, attendance, tardiness, and feelings about school
- The rights and responsibilities of parents at a Title I school
- Resources and instructional methods for English Language Learners

III. Flexible meeting times

A. This year we will ensure maximum parental involvement in school opportunities and meetings by using a flexible schedule that will be posted on the school website and in the ParentSquare calendar.

IV. Title I Part A Planning

A. Communication with parents is crucial for student academic success. This year South Pine Academy will use a variety of methods to communicate with our parents and school community.

ParentSquare: ParentSquare allows for safe, two-way communication between the school and

families.

SMORE: Smore allows for grade level information, links, dates and student resources to be shared online in a way for easy translation and quick links between grade levels and families.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Fall Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for November 2023. Teachers will be available to review your child's progress and answer any questions you may have. Parents may schedule additional conferences as needed.

Open House: Open House and Orientation events are scheduled each August to provide parents with the opportunity to meet faculty and staff of our school, tour our beautiful campus, and meet their child's teacher.

V. Parent Information and Opportunities

A. Describe how you will provide parents and families with the following:

1. Weekly Canva newsletter/ school website- Parent Square, Thursday Folders/agendas/ Social Media
2. School website/School Report Card
3. Assessment results of their child's performance – Progress reports, parent conferences, Thursday Folder work and report cards
4. A description and explanation of the curriculum, assessment forms, and proficiency levels and state standards. Include strategies to inform parents with language barriers and/or disabilities – Information will be given out in Spanish when requested. Information will also be done through the school report card.
5. Opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decision making will be done through the SIT meetings (1 time a month)
6. Timely responses to suggestions and questions raised by parents- this will be done when suggestions and questions are given within a 24-hour school day period in writing.
7. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in child's class- ParentSquare

VI. South Pine Academy School-Family Compact & Expectations

A. Parents will receive a copy of the South Pine Academy Learning Compact & Expectations at Open House. We believe that our students do their best through the teamwork of parents, families, students and school staff. The learning compact is an agreement between South Pine families and the school that describes how we will work together to support student learning during the 2023-2024 school year. This document will be sent home in English and Spanish with learning materials during Open House and on the first day of school. The information will also be posted on our website and on ParentSquare.

VII. Building Parent and Family Engagement Capacity

A. Briefly discuss how you will address the following:

1. Assistance to parents will be given through the school website, school report card, parent conferences, ParentSquare and quarterly progress reports. Also Title 1 information will be located on school website under Title 1 page. Parents will also attend a Title 1 Annual meeting to get information 9/21/23.
2. Materials will be given through community partners, SSPLC and will also be located on school website under the Title 1 tab.
3. Our committees will host Professional Development to assist teachers and staff on ways to communicate and engage families for events, in communication and assist with resources.
4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs/activities will be done with our PLC committees and our community partnerships.

5. Appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses will be developed in SIT.
6. Conduct other activities as appropriate and feasible that is designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child
7. Ensure that information related to parent involvement is sent home in the language used in the home (Spanish, English etc)

VIII. English Learners and Disabled Parents and Families

- A. Opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency or with disabilities will be done through an interpreter (Spanish, French, Portuguese) and any other need at the parent request. Materials will be translated to Spanish for parents or made accessible.

IX. Parent/Family Requests

- A. Support for parental involvement activities requested by parents will be done on a case by case basis. PTO, our SSPLC team along with community-based partners will help in suggesting parental involvement activities.

X. Annual Evaluation

- A. As a school community, we will review the effectiveness of our parent involvement policy in improving our school during our Annual Title I Meeting and School Improvement Planning process.

We invite you to call the school to ask any questions you may have or to schedule a visit or meeting. It is our hope that your child(ren) will have a wonderful learning experience at South Pine Academy. Parents will be encouraged to participate in the School Improvement Team, Parent Teacher Association and other school activities. Parents are also welcomed to submit Parent Involvement activity requests to our Parent Involvement Committee. As always, South Pine will be sensitive to the cultural background of parents, students and the community in general and will provide a welcoming environment for all.

XI. Other Parent and Family Engagement Practices (School may include the following).

Only describe the ones you choose to implement

- A. Describe how your school addresses the following, **only** if practices are part of your schoolwide plan.
 - Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities for instructional materials such as manipulatives for students to work at home.
 - Arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences for those unable to attend in school activities: these will be done virtually with recorded versions for families to watch if unable to attend, summaries in weekly ParentSquare posts, and multiple sessions of in-person events.