



Sonora Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116
2022 – 2023

Sonora Elementary School 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, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of ESSA Section 1116 subsections (c) through (f). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Basic Elements of the Campus Parental and Family Involvement Policy:

1. Statement of Purpose
2. Developing the Policy
3. Involve Parents in the School-Wide Plan
4. Building Capacity
5. Annual Meeting
6. School-Parent Compacts
7. Evaluation

Statement of Purpose

Sonora Elementary believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Therefore, Sonora Elementary 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. Sonora Elementary will provide to all parents the grade level goals for its students. Those students that need extra assistance will have access to programs that will help them reach these goals. Sonora Elementary 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

Sonora Elementary Campus Advisory Team shall involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the Campus Improvement Plan under

Sonora Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116
2022 – 2023

section 1114(b), including an adequate representation of parents of participating children;
Section 1116 (c)(3)

Involve Parents in the School-Wide Plan

If the Campus Improvement Plan under section 1114(b) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan to the principal who will relay these when the school makes the plan available to the school board for approval. Section 1116 (c)(5)

Building Capacity

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Sonora Elementary School shall: Section 1116 (e)

(i) aid parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the TEKS (state standards) through reasonable access to staff, and state/local academic assessments through All-STAAR picnic. The requirements of this are explained through annual meetings. Additionally, aid is provided on how to monitor a child's progress through family grades portal, and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children school-parent compact, parent-teacher conferences, Open House, and reasonable access to staff; Section 1116 (e)(1)

(ii) provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; Section 1116 (e)(2)

(iii) educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school; Section 1116 (e)(3)

(iv) to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, Reading Initiatives through the Sutton County Library, United Way and the Masonic Lodge. Communicate information from local parent resource centers and the campus PTO that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Classroom volunteers
- Reading volunteers
- Assistance in the library

Sonora Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116
2022 – 2023

- Fundraising
 - Field trips
 - Family nights
 - Class parties
 - Distribution of materials and supplies
 - Other activities identified by teachers or school staff members and communicated to their campus principal.
- ; Section 1116 (e)(4)

(v) provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request through community connections with the public library, county educational programs, and information pertaining to English or GED courses in the area. Section 1116 (e)(14)

Annual Meeting

Sonora Elementary School 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 this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved; Section 1116 (c)(1) Special Education Director, and Elementary Principal will notify families via newsletters and the Sonora ISD website (www.sonoraisd.net) with meeting dates and times.

Sonora Elementary School shall offer two or more meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, childcare, or home visits upon request, as such services relate to parental involvement; Section 1116 (c)(2)

School-Parent Compacts

Sonora Elementary School-Parent Compacts shall provide parents of participating children—

- (A) timely information (via the student handbook, discussion at parent-teacher conferences, and information found on the school website) about the best methods to maintain positive, timely communication between home and school;
- (B) an explanation of the responsibilities of staff in providing high-level curriculum in use at the school, the general forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the State academic standards (TEKS); and
- (C) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children,

Sonora Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy
ESSA Section 1116
2022 – 2023

and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; Section 1116 (c)(4)

Evaluation

Sonora Elementary School Campus Advisory Team will 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 revised 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 and will be communicated to the parents in the district.

Concluding Statement

Sonora Elementary School 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.

Notes:

1. *Although ESSA statute does not require the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy to be approved by the school board, the LEA may require Board adoption. Refer to your “policy on policies” and follow the more restrictive requirement.*
2. *Maintain documentation of the development, evaluation, and annual review of the written policy such as agendas, sign-in sheets (parents must be involved), and minutes.*
3. *The campus parental involvement policies shall be updated periodically, and modified to meet the changing needs of parents and students. Parents must be involved throughout the development, evaluation, and review of the policies.*
4. *4. The district policy must be disseminated to parents of Title I, Part A children.*
5. *The Parental Involvement goal in the district improvement plan does not take the place of a written parental involvement policy*