

## **Jackson Elementary Title I Family Engagement Policy**

### **Plano ISD Mission Statement:**

The mission of Jackson Elementary School is to provide a supportive learning environment to ensure high levels of learning for ALL students.

### **General Expectations:**

Jackson Elementary School fosters an environment that promotes both physical and mental well-being. We believe that student academic achievement requires that parents have an understanding of curriculum, academic achievement standards, assessments, and district/school policies and procedures. We believe that families need to understand how to monitor their children's progress and work together with educators. Throughout the year, there are multiple parent meetings offered at Jackson. These meetings are designed to inform and request input from parents about academic expectations, along with campus and district student achievement. Plano ISD coordinates with Title I campuses by requiring an annual parent information meeting designed for parents to receive information about the campus and district Title 1 programs. Parenting classes and other activities and programs are explained. Individual student progress is shared with parents on a one-on-one basis through communications from classroom teachers. We believe that this information leads to increased parent involvement, communication, and academic achievement of all students.

### **Implementation of District Parent Involvement Components:**

***Jackson Elementary Administration shall work in collaboration with parents and guardians and shall actively support the school and parents in enhancing parent involvement by:***

- Respecting parents as **partners** in the education of their children. Parents are included in policy decisions through our district and campus Site Based Improvement Committees and the District Parent Involvement Federal Programs Committee.
- Fostering a welcoming and **responsive environment** for parents. Our campus has a full-time parent liaison (Maria Castañeda) to increase parent communication and build relationships and partnerships with parents and community members. Jackson has two counselors who support both student and family needs. Our office staff is welcoming and sensitive to the needs of all parents. Beginning and ending year surveys are available for campus and district use to identify needs and monitor the progress of program goals.

- Coordinating efforts to meet the **needs of parents** through various district and campus programs. Examples include the Community Outreach program (mobile computer classroom for parents); district- and campus-level parenting programs, etc.

- Valuing the need for partnerships between Jackson and the **community**. Our campus actively seeks resources to support academic and parent programs at Title I campuses and our Community Outreach Program.

- Establishing and promoting **communication** as a source of trust and understanding between Jackson and our parents. This is accomplished through parent-teacher meetings, parent-principal meetings, e-mail, campus/grade level/classroom newsletters, campus and district web pages, phone calls, parent meetings, etc.

- Promoting a **welcoming and safe atmosphere** for families new to the school environment, such as kindergarten, by ensuring families have a complete understanding of the student's daily activities as well as how to help their child at home. This is accomplished through weekly/monthly newsletters.

***Parents/Guardians are asked and encouraged to be involved in their children's learning and education by:***

- Utilizing two-way lines of **communication** between parents and school staff on the instruction, achievement, and conduct of their children.

- Participating in **training opportunities** including strategies to reinforce learning at home, discipline, and understanding cultural differences. Love & Logic training, parenting classes, math/reading/science family nights, computer literacy, etc. help to empower parents.

- Participating in site-based **leadership** and **decision-making** through the PTA and district/campus Site Based Improvement Committee.

- **Volunteering** in their children's schools through mentoring programs, field trips, classroom support, etc.

- Supporting **partnerships** within the community through participation in programs such as local area restaurant fundraising, church organizations, student banking, etc.