

**Lawndale Elementary
Amarillo Independent School District
Parent Involvement Policy
2016-2017**

Statement of Purpose

Amarillo ISD is committed to the goal of providing a quality education for every child in this district. Lawndale Elementary will commit to establish healthy working relationships between school, parents, and our community.

Each student will benefit from supportive and active dedication of all faculty members. Parents need to support their children as well as their school. The strongest possible link between home and school will create an environment for every child to reach their fullest potential.

Our school recognizes the fact that some of our students may need extra assistance to achieve their full potential. We will provide support through Title I programs and other educational services as needed. Lawndale Elementary will involve parents in all aspects of the Title I program at our school.

Parent Involvement in Developing the Policy

An advisory committee consisting of parents, members of the community, teachers, the parent liaison and administrators will meet to develop, plan and/or revise our Parent Involvement Policy, School -Parent Compact for Achievement and Parent Survey. We will actively recruit volunteers for this committee through various school and community resources. Meetings will be planned at convenient times and locations for all the members of the committee to attend.

Needs assessments will be conducted (i.e. surveys, questionnaires, meeting evaluations, etc.) and parental input will be solicited through various means throughout the school year. This will be utilized to make any needed policy revisions.

Annual Meeting for Title I Parents

The annual meeting will be held in September at our Open House. Parents will receive important information concerning their child's academic requirements, Title I information, current Parent Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact and any other information that would benefit the home and school partnership.

Meetings will be held at convenient times and locations during the school year. Written notices, telephone calls, and reminders will be sent to parents to ensure we are reaching as many parents as possible. Parents will be encouraged to become involved in revising and updating the policy as necessary by volunteering to serve on the committee.

School-Parent Compact for Achievement

In accordance with Title I regulations, our school has developed a School-Parent Compact for Achievement with the students, parents and teachers at Lawndale Elementary. The compact will further enable the school and parents to share responsibility for student performance and success.

All parents will be given a copy of the compact detailing the areas of responsibility that the student, parents and school will have in helping the student accomplish their goals. The Parent Advisory Committee along with parents will be involved in the development and/or revision of the compact. Parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact with their family members and sign it together.

Matching Programs to the Needs of Our Community

Each year, the school district will assess the needs of parents and children in this community through a variety of measures – including questionnaires sent home to parents so that the Title I program will be tailored to meet those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available (some for parents, some for parents and children) to match the expressed needs. Parents will be notified about these opportunities through a monthly newsletter and it will also be available on the school website, <http://lawndalemaisd.sharpschool.com/>. Parents will have access to a Parent Resource Area detailing upcoming events, parenting classes, adult education, academic opportunities and other important information throughout the school year. Parents may call their local school office at any time to express an interest in a particular workshop or to make suggestions.

Staff/Parent Communications

Communication with parents will include a monthly newsletter distributed throughout the year. There will also be notices and activity packets sent home with children, school calendar, meeting dates, phone calls, emails, websites, flyers, information bulletin board, conferences, and home visits as needed. Our parent liaison will be utilized to strengthen these lines of communication. Parents will be able to schedule individual conferences with their child's teacher during the school year. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher during their scheduled planning period or after school when they are concerned about a problem. They may also call the school office and ask for a translator for conferences. As much as possible, notices sent home will be available in English and Spanish. Staff will receive training on how to improve home-school communication; some parents will be asked to participate in these training sessions.

Evaluation

There will be a parent survey to evaluate the effectiveness of the Title I Parent Involvement Program, and parents will be asked for their input. Surveys will be sent home with each student annually. The evaluation will include an assessment of how much parental involvement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome. The results will be tabulated and brought before the advisory committee for discussion. These results will be used in the planning process for the following school year.