



# Onalaska ISD

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2021-2022

### Vision Statement

Inspiring and empowering 21st century learners toward a standard of superior achievement.

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Onalaska ISD believes every child should have the opportunity to attain his/her full potential. Onalaska ISD will work together to establish effective programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its campuses with Title I, Part A programs. The district will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. Parent information and school reports will be provided in an understandable and uniform format, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

The purpose of parent and family involvement is to promote a school-home partnership that will help all students on all campuses succeed. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote achievement for our students.

Onalaska ISD 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, including but not limited to:

- Before/After School Tutorials (Fall/Spring Semester)
- Scheduled Intervention Classes (Tiered II/III-Math & Reading)
- Small Group, Targeted Instruction (Before, During, After School)
- Edmentum (ELEM-Computerized Content Remediation/JRSR High-Credit Recovery)
- Study Island (Reading/Math Grades K-2/STAAR Computerized Practice Grades 3-12)
- Get More Math (Grades 3rd-12)
- i-Ready/Think Up (1st-8th: Math, Reading, and Science)

Onalaska ISD will make every effort to include parents in the development, evaluation, and revision of the Title I, Part A Program and the Parental Engagement Policy. The school-parent compact at each Title I, Part A campus will describe the responsibilities of key stakeholders and useful channels of communication. The goal of our parental engagement program throughout the district is to implement effective parental engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and campus performance.

## **DEVELOPING THE POLICY/INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS**

The district will work with a District Improvement Team which will be formed consisting of parents, community members, teachers and staff, and principals or administrators to develop/revise the Onalaska ISD Parental Engagement Policy. The need for volunteers to serve on this committee will be publicized via letter/email and then volunteers will be selected from campus nominations. The parent volunteers will represent the diversity of the student population, and one or more parents on the improvement team will have children participating in a Title I program. The improvement team will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members.

Additionally, Onalaska ISD will incorporate the district parental engagement policy into its district improvement plan. The improvement team will also provide input regarding the development and revision of the district improvement plan.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY**

Onalaska ISD values the partnership of the parents in their children's education. There are ways parents can make significant contributions to student success both at home and by volunteering at school. Student achievement is the result of an effective home-school-community partnership.

Onalaska ISD, with cooperation of the campuses, will provide the following:

- An annual meeting where parents will learn about the requirements of the school's Title I program and be given an opportunity to become involved with their child's education. Meetings will be offered two dates and times to provide parents flexibility in attending. Date and time of each campus meeting will be communicated in a variety of ways such as flyers, marque messages, social media, or phone messages.
- A minimum of one scheduled parent conference where the school-parent compact will be discussed as it relates to the progress of the student, as well as the expectations for the grade level school curriculum, test information, and any other concerns the teacher or parent may have.
- A school-parent compact designed by parents and school staff that outlines how parents, campus staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improvement in student academic achievement.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum used, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress (TX-KEA, TPRI, etc.), and proficiency levels students are expected to meet will be provided to parents through a letter or conference.
- Assistance to parents in understanding the state's academic content standards, known as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) will be communicated.
- Parents will have the opportunity to help review, plan for, and make suggestions to improve the Title I program. Two meetings will be scheduled, one in the fall and one in the spring.

The district will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent involvement through avenues such as:

- Providing assistance to parents in how to monitor a child's progress and how to work with educators to improve student achievement.
- Providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement.
- Providing training to teachers and school personnel with the assistance of parents to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and school.
- Providing information in a format and language the parents understand.

### **COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS**

Onalaska ISD will develop a partnership with public preschool programs (if available). Parental engagement strategies will be coordinated to assist the transition from pre-school to elementary school.

Annually Onalaska ISD will assess the needs of parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools such as computerized and/or printed surveys and questionnaires. The findings will be used to revise the Title I program to meet the current needs. Training will be made available to address the needs of the school community. Parents will be notified about training opportunities via campus newsletters, campus/district callout, district/campus website, and local newspaper announcements.

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If Onalaska ISD's Title I allocation is \$500,000 or more, the district will set aside at least 1% of its Title I funds for the purpose of parental engagement. Parental engagement funds will be divided among each Title I campus. The campus principal will consult with the Campus Improvement Team about allowable uses of the funds. Parents will be involved in deciding how these funds will be allotted for parental engagement activities. The campus principal will authorize the use of the funds designated for parental engagement.

## **EVALUATION**

Onalaska ISD will work with its District Improvement Team to evaluate the content and effectiveness of the Parental Engagement Program.

- **Annual Surveys/Questionnaires:** Surveys/Questionnaires will be distributed at campus level. Parents will be given the option of completing online. *(Person Responsible: Laura Redden, Asst. Superintendent/Campus Principals)*
- **Volunteer Program Meetings:** Input will be given to assist in strengthening Title I campus Volunteer Programs. Round table discussions and surveys will be utilized. *(Person Responsible: Stephanie Schubert, Title I Parent Liaison)*
- **District/Campus Improvement Team Meetings:** Input/Suggestions will be encouraged from Administrators, Teachers/Campus Specialists, Instructional Assistants, Parents, and Community Members on how to improve and strengthen the Parent Involvement program. Suggestions will be noted and, if possible, implemented. *(Persons Responsible: Laura Redden, Asst. Superintendent; Campus Principals)*
- **Classroom Observation:** Ongoing walkthroughs/classroom teacher feedback will note effectiveness of parent volunteers within the classroom setting.
- **Assessment Data (Local/State):** District/Campus data will be analyzed to determine strengths in Parent Involvement activities/Parent Volunteers.

Onalaska ISD will continually strive to remove any barriers that may limit parent and family participation such as, but not limited to, home language, communication of announcing Parental Engagement events, and time scheduling of Parental Engagement events.

The district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental engagement policies.

## **DATE DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

REVISED: October 2021

Onalaska ISD is committed to the success of students. The district will work together with parents to monitor the effectiveness of our Parental Engagement and Title I Programs and to provide excellence in education. This policy will be promoted by administrators, principals, and other school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.