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# Parent & Family Engagement Policy



2023-2024

Revised Jan. 2024

## VALERE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Valere Public Schools is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. Parent support is critical to a child's educational success. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and the community. Valere Public Schools are dedicated to the on-going process of building schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement.

#### **PART I GENERAL EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES**

Valere Public Schools agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Valere Public Schools will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student achievement and school performance, including computer applications that promote communication between school and home.
- Valere Public Schools will facilitate parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
- Valere Public Schools will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, 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.
- Valere Public Schools will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs including migrant, bilingual, ACE, and special education parent meetings.

#### **PART II BUILDING CAPACITY FOR STRONG PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

##### **Objective 1. Facilitate family-to-family support using strategies such as:**

Parent and family activities will be offered at different times of day and on varied days of the week to meet in order to accommodate the needs of parents and families.

- In order to build a home and school partnership, Valere Public Schools will conduct an annual Title I, Part A meeting where parents will be involved in the joint development of the Title I program plan, including the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, and be given an opportunity to become involved with their child's education. An annual Title I, Part A, parent meeting will be held before the end of the first nine weeks of school.
- Parent meetings and conferences will be held at different times of the day to accommodate the needs of parents.

**Objective 2. Establish a network of community resources using strategies such as:**

- Communications with parents will be in a format and a language that parents can understand.
- Campuses will keep websites and other social media outlets up to date to assure effective communication.
- Campuses will work with local entities such as ACE and Boys and Girls Clubs to enhance after-school programming.
- District and school information will be sent to parents in a timely manner. Information will be given to parents through school newsletters, notices, websites, and from the communication platforms.

**Objective 3. Equip families with tools to enhance and extend learning using strategies such as:**

- A description and explanation of the curriculum used; the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress (benchmarks), and expected proficiency levels will be provided to parents.
- Assistance to parents in understanding the state's academic content standards, known as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), and the state student achievement standards based on the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR), will be communicated through state resources such as the Texas Assessment Data Portal.
- Parents will be provided with materials and specific training to help them work with their children to improve achievement.

**Objective 4. Increase family participation in decision-making using strategies such as:**

- A school-parent compact will be disseminated, designed by parents and school staff, outlining how parents, the entire campus staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improvement in student academic achievement.
- Elementary campuses will provide 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.
- Parents will have the opportunity to help review, plan for and make suggestions to improve the Title I program, as well as the Parental & Family Engagement Policy and the school-parent compact. Valere Public Schools will ensure that not less than 90% of the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement goes directly to schools. Parents will be involved in decisions about how the reserved funds are spent.

- Parents will be given opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their child's education. Parents may request a meeting with the school staff by phone, e-mail, or by utilizing campus communication platforms.

**Objective 5. Develop staff skills in evidence-based practices that support families in meeting their children's learning benchmarks using strategies such as:**

- School personnel will practice positive, effective home to school communications. Barring unforeseen circumstances, school personnel will respond to parent communication with a return phone call or e-mail within one school day from the time the communication was received.
- Valere Public Schools will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, 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.

**PART III EVALUATION**

**Objective 6. Evaluate family engagement efforts and use evaluations for continuous improvement using strategies such as:**

- With the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, Valere Public Schools will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served under this part, including identifying—
  - Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
  - The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
  - Strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

- Valere Public Schools will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.
- The VALERE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be incorporated into Title I Campuses' Schoolwide Plans and the District Improvement Plan by reference in individual strategies, as well as an attached addendum.
- Valere Public Schools will use a variety of methods to involve parents in the activities of the schools, which may include establishing a parent advisory board.

#### **PART IV ADOPTION**

The Valere Public Schools' Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by District Advisory Committee meeting agenda, sign-in sheets, and minutes.

This policy was adopted by the Valere Public Schools August, 2023 and will be in effect for the period of one year

If you require help translating this document, please contact your child's school Principal or front office staff for assistance.

Copies of this document can be found on the district website [Home - Promesa Public Schools](#)

