Carl Schurz Elementary
2026-2027
School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

At Carl Schurz Elementary School, we recognize that parental involvement is an important aspect of effective schooling. The school and the home cannot be looked at in isolation from one another. Families and schools need to collaborate to help children adjust to the responsibilities of being successful students. Research has shown that parental involvement contributes greatly to student achievement and conduct.

The staff at Carl Schurz Elementary School believes that we should help parents develop skills to meet the basic obligations of family life and foster conditions at home that emphasize the importance of education and learning. Two-way communication about school programs and students' progress is promoted due to the belief that education is a responsibility shared with parents. Parents are invited to actively participate in school decision-making through our Campus Improvement Committee and our monthly Parent Forum meetings. Parents are also encouraged to develop their leadership skills in governance and advocacy by attending school board meetings and getting involved in the Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

Through conferences, meetings, Parent Square notices, and newsletters, parents are provided with timely information about curriculum, assessments, and student proficiency levels. These ensure that the school remains focused on our primary responsibility, to provide a high-quality curriculum and instructional programming in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables all students the opportunity to meet academic expectations set forth in the Texas State Standards.

At Carl Schurz Elementary School, we believe that the parents have the responsibility and opportunity to work with the school in a mutually supportive and respectful partnership with the goal of helping their children succeed in school. We are committed to increasing parental involvement, which will ultimately improve student achievement.

PART I GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Carl Schurz Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

1. The School will jointly develop with parents and distribute to parents of participating children, a Parent Involvement Policy that the school and parents of participating children agree on.

2. The school will notify parents about the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, will distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.

3. The School will make the Parent and Family Engagement Policy available to the local community on the campus webpage.

4. The School will annually update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

5. The School will adopt the school's School-Parent compact as a component of its Parent Involvement Policy.

PART II

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Carl Schurz Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy under section 1116(2) of ESSA(Every Student Succeeds Act)

a. On an annual basis, the Campus Improvement Committee will revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from parents and community members.

b. A Needs Assessment survey will be available to all parents in the spring to provide the campus with feedback that will be used to guide and update the campus Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

2. Carl Schurz Elementary will take the following actions to distribute to parents of participating children and the local community, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

a. During fall Parent/Teacher Conferences the School-Parent Compact and Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be discussed. Parents will receive an annual copy of the updated School-Parent Compact at these conferences.

b. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be published on the campus website.

3. Carl Schurz Elementary will consistently update its Parent and Family Engagement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school:

a. The Campus Improvement Committee will annually review the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to update academic achievement information, safety needs, and program needs.

b. The CSE Campus Improvement Committee will review Needs Assessment data and provide feedback to make necessary updates or changes to the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

4. Carl Schurz Elementary will convene an annual Title I parent meeting:

a. Notification will be sent home prior to the meeting, notifying parents of specific details and Title I requirements. This meeting will take place at the beginning of the year, generally in September.

b. Parent Square, Facebook, newsletters, School Marquee and various other forms of communication will be used to notify parents of this annual meeting.

5. Carl Schurz Elementary will provide information about available Title I Programs to parents of participating children in a timely manner.

a. For the 2026-2027 school year, the campus will be using Title I funds to provide identified students with Reading and Math intervention support teachers.

b. A bilingual paraprofessional will support identified students.

6. Carl Schurz Elementary will provide to parents of participating children a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the form of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet:

a. Summaries of grade level standards will be presented and discussed by each teacher at Open House and during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

b. Results of district and state assessments will be made available to parents via progress reports and/or parent conferences. A copy of the annual Texas Academic Performance Report is kept in the main office for parents to access and review.

7. Carl Schurz Elementary will incorporate the School-Parent compact as a component of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

a. The School-Parent compact will be distributed and reviewed with parents and students at our annual Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences in October.

b. The Campus Improvement Plan, Parent Engagement Policy and Compact posted on our campus website will be an avenue for parents to receive further detailed information about the commitment of the school, parents and students.

8. Carl Schurz Elementary will submit to the district any parent comments or concerns if the school wide plan is not satisfactory to parents of participating children:

a. The parents will be directed to write a letter to the Principal with their concerns.

b. The campus Principal will schedule a time to meet with parents who submit concerns to further discuss/review these concerns.

PART III

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Carl Schurz Elementary will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

a. The campus will encourage participation of dads through the WatchDOG program.

b. The campus will encourage and utilize volunteers in the classrooms to support teachers in material management, individual reading support, science lab support, etc.

c. The campus will organize monthly parental involvement activities, which include the Campus Improvement Committee Meetings, Open House, The Family Adventure Day, CSE Book Fair, Family Nights, and Donuts with Grown Ups to name a few.

Carl Schurz Elementary will incorporate the School-Parent compact as a component of its Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

a. The School-Parent Compact will be discussed at Fall Parent Conferences.

b. Parents will be informed of activities, programs and academic support that are a part of the School-Parent compact and an extension of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Carl Schurz Elementary will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school.

a. Parents are always welcome to join in activities on campus before, during, and after school.

b. Parents will be encouraged to become active volunteers in the school and participate in activities that support student academic growth and development.

In an effort to foster parental involvement, the school will, with the assistance of district personnel, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, available technology programs and their use at home, resources that should be available to students at home such as flashcards and high frequency word lists, and beneficial routines. Parents will also have the opportunity to attend STAAR Parent Night activities to learn more about state assessments and SSI guidelines.

In August of each school year, the school will, with the assistance of its district and parents, educate teachers, pupil personnel, administrators, and support staff on effective ways to communicate with parents, and how to effectively work with parents to include them as equal partners in the school. Campus employees will understand the value and utility of contributions of parents, and be encouraged to implement and coordinate parent programs and activities that build ties between parents and schools, and strengthen parental involvement across the campus, utilizing campus, state, and Title 1 funds and programs.

PART IV ADOPTION

This Parent 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 minutes of:

a. Carl Schurz Elementary Title 1 Meeting, November 15, 2025 at 4:30 PM.

This policy was adopted by the Campus Improvement Committee on May 15, 2025 and will be reviewed by parents and relevant stakeholders annually at the beginning of each school year. This school will inform and distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children during Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences in October of each school year. It will be made available to the local community in November via the campus and district website. Carl Schurz Elementary notification to parents of this policy is found in the School-Parent Compact in a language that is appropriate to meet the needs of our parents. The policy will be reviewed throughout the year and evaluated at the end of the school year for effectiveness, including identifying reasons that keep parents from attending engagement events and academic participation.

Information will be presented to the local community during the month of November via the school's website. Carl Schurz Elementary School's parent notification will be included in the school-parent compact in the appropriate language.

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