

Harding Elementary School

Family Engagement Policy

Harding Elementary School is committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledges that caregivers share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. We recognize that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family and agree that to effectively educate all students, we must all work together as partners.

Caregivers will be informed about the Title I program and their right to be involved in educational decisions regarding their child. There will be a Title I School Wide Informational Meeting at the beginning of each school year.

Caregivers will be asked to be a part of Harding's Parent Involvement Council. This council will meet to plan, review, and make any changes to the existing Family Engagement Policy and Compact.

Workshops, programs, and activities will be offered to our Harding families throughout the school year. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these opportunities as much as possible. Caregivers are equal partners and we value their input.

Parent Conferences will be held in November during daytime and evening hours to discuss student progress and share strategies to use at home to support continued growth. Curriculum and District Assessments will be explained and clarified if requested. If a caregiver would like to schedule a separate conference during the year with their child's teacher they may contact the office directly and arrangements will be made.

Caregivers are able to monitor student progress and attendance from home using Infinite Campus. If you need assistance accessing your students grades, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Family Engagement Events will be held throughout the school year. Title I funds may be used to pay for reasonable and necessary expenses such as materials and refreshments associated with family engagement activities. Some of these activities include but are not limited to PBS (Positive Behavior Support), PSSA Informational Meeting and other educational programs focusing on literacy and math.

At Harding School we define Family Engagement as an ongoing process that focuses on supporting caregivers and families to meet their obligation as their child's first educator. The intention is to promote a two-way dialogue between home and school and support caregivers as leaders and decision makers in the school's Title I Program.

To this end, a written plan for Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) establishes programs and practices to enhance parent engagement and reflects the needs of the students and families which have been jointly developed by caregivers, Title I School Wide Support Teachers, and School Administrators.

The School Level Plan was developed together with Harding parents and staff. Parents on the Advisory Council will be asked to be involved in writing the following school year's School Level Plan.



Harding Elementary School
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Mrs. Kathleen Farnham, K-5 Principal
Mr. Jeffrey Yonkers, Assistant Principal

Title I Family Engagement Policy and Learning Compact for the 2022- 2023 school year

Harding Elementary School and the parents of students participating in activities, services and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) agree that this policy outlines how caregivers, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improving academic achievement and the means by which we will all work together in order to build and develop a strong partnership that will help our children meet with success.

As students, we will:

1. Follow the Harding Code of Conduct: Be Respectful, Responsible, Safe, and Focused.
2. Arrive at school on time and ready to learn.
3. Pay attention and ask for help when needed.
4. Complete all assignments to the best of our abilities.

As caregivers, we will:

1. Give our children a quiet place to study and encourage homework completion.
2. Make sure our children get to school on time and are ready to learn.
3. Attend Family Engagement activities offered at the school.
4. Keep the lines of communication open with teachers and administrators.

As teachers, we will:

1. Teach the necessary standards and skills to your children.
2. Communicate with you in various ways and on a regular basis regarding your child's progress.
3. Teach and model acceptance of responsibility for the positive and negative outcomes of personal behavior.
4. Provide differentiated instruction when appropriate to ensure student success.

Additional Information

- Harding School staff will provide, if requested, opportunities for flexible meetings in order to offer suggestions and participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. These suggestions will be addressed in a timely manner.
- The School Level Plan includes a caregiver-student-teacher compact and supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of the Family Engagement Program.
- Communication with caregivers may include the following: written notes from the classroom teacher, phone calls, e-mail, conferences, meetings (in person or virtual), and progress reports. Translated documents will be provided if requested.
- Caregivers will have the opportunity to assist in teacher trainings on how to reach out to and communicate with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate family programs, and build ties between caregivers and family members of the school.
- A Family Resource Center with materials is available and is located in the school office. Families will have access to this during school hours. If families are in need of additional resources or assistance with other community services, they can contact our Community School Director at spotter@eriesd.org.
- Information will be provided in different languages if requested.

*If you have any questions or concerns please contact our School-Wide Support teachers: llunger@eriesd.org or lsexton@eriesd.org.

**Improving reading and math achievement is a top priority at Harding School. Please encourage your child to do their best so we can achieve this goal as a team!*

**We continue to utilize CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts) and Ready Math as our core curriculums.*

**Please be sure to notify the office of any address and /or phone number changes.*

**Are you looking for easy ways to keep up with all the latest events at Harding? "LIKE" us on Facebook and check our school website. Also, look for our calendar of events that is sent home with your child each month.*
