



# **School of Science and Technology (SST) –Houston**

## **Campus Parental and Family Engagement Policy**

### **2019-2020**

#### **School of Science and Technology (SST) Public Schools Mission Statement**

“Our mission at School of Science and Technology (SST) drives academic and socio-emotional development through a college preparatory, STEM-based learning model. SST’s model is anchored on 21st century skills, embraced by character-building approach, and delivered in an enriching, safe, and student-centered learning environment.”

**SST’s Vision** Nurturing world-class scholars and ethical citizens to build a better future for all. **SST’s core values** are M.A.G.I.C. Moral Compass, Accountability, Generosity, Innovation, & Citizenship.

**District Core Ethical Values:** Accountability, Citizenship, Dedication, Honesty, Integrity, Kindness, Leadership, Respectfulness, and Responsibility.

#### **Statement of Purpose**

The success of School of Science and Technology (SST) Public Charter School students based on a program emphasizing academic excellence while motivating student achievement. The School of Science and Technology (SST) School model is:

- Rigorous (prepares student for college);
- Relevant (reinforces math and science skills); and,
- Relationships (a strong culture of meaningful personal relationships, reinforced by teachers and parents)

School of Science and Technology (SST) attributes the strong performance of its schools and students to three core principles within the school model:

- A challenging math and science curriculum supported by theory;
- A focus on assessment across the school system; and,
- A culture of constructive competition, discipline and parental engagement.

To this end, we want to establish partnership with parents and with the community. Parents play an extremely important role as the children’s first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children’s success at every step of the way.

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, School of Science and Technology (SST) - Houston receives Title I, Part A funds and develops jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1111(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (campus wide parental and family engagement policy). The policy establishes School of Science and Technology (SST)’s expectations for parental and family engagement and describes

how School of Science and Technology (SST) will implement a number of specific parental and family engagement activities.

## **PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

The School of Science and Technology (SST) - Houston agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1116 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1111(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1111(d) of the ESEA.
- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community via school website, email, and also upon request of the community. The PFEP will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1116 ESSA and 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (school district).
- The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong parental and family engagement, in order to ensure effective and family engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.
- The school will provide other reasonable support for parental and family engagement activities under section 1116 (e)(14) of the ESSA and 1111 of the ESEA as the parents may request.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental and family engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

*"Parental and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—*

- *that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- *that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- *that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- *the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of ESSA and 1111 of the ESSA."*

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED CAMPUS PARENTAL and family engagement POLICY COMPONENTS**

***The campus will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental and family engagement plan under section 1111 of the ESEA and 1116 (b)(1):***

**Actions:** Our school holds an official State of the School Address by the end of September through October; as well as second semester if needed, each school year to review with parents Title I School requirements and the school's Parent and family engagement Policy. In addition, the principal gives parents an update on school test data, progress report card, and facilitate a review of the school's improvement plan ESSA section 1116(b)(1).

***The campus will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of ESSA and section 1111 of the ESEA:***

**Actions:** Our school annually invites parents to participate in review and revision meetings to examine and discuss our Campus Improvement Plan and Parent and family engagement Policy. The school consistently reviews school policy in an organized, ongoing and timely way. An organized Parent Volunteer Committee (PVC) is established in our school to create a forum for parental input and family engagement. Our school publicizes and disseminates to teachers and other staff, parents, students, and the community, the results of the annual review under paragraph (2) of all schools served under this part in individual school performance profiles that include statistically sound disaggregated results as required by section ESSA 1116(b)(1).

***The campus will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional parental and family engagement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend ESSA Section 1116(c)(1). The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend. ESSA Section 1116 (c)(2).***

**Actions:** An annual meeting where parents will learn about the requirements of the school's Title I program will be held. Related information regarding parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent to parents in a timely manner. This information can be distributed through weekly newsletters, phone calls, websites, or through classroom teachers. Our school provides specific training and materials to help parents work with their children to improve achievement. A letter will be sent to each child's parents and meeting will be announced on each campus website. Parent meeting conferences will be held one time in a year. Meeting times needs to be accommodated to the needs of the parents. Communications with the parents will be in a format and a language that they can understand.

***The campus provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under this part; descriptions and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practically possible.***

**Actions:** Our school communicates with parents often the state's curricular and assessment expectations, school wide requirements in relation to the delivery of instruction, the techniques utilized to evaluate student work, and individual classroom rituals and routines pertinent to the academic success of our students. We use a variety of communicative techniques such as our School Handbook, Weekly Newsletters, School Website, Teachers Websites, Schoology, Parent/Teacher Conferences, School Council Meetings, individual notes/calls home, Family Fun Nights, Surveys, School of Science and Technology (SST) Parent web sites, parent workshops, Open House, Back to School Night, Literacy Night, Report Cards, benchmark results, etc. to solicit parent participation and deliver important information in hopes of creating productive dialogue between home and school concerning improved student achievement.

**PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

**As a component of the school-level parental and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. ESSA 1116 (d)(2)**

The education of a student is not only the responsibility of the teacher, but also of the parent and the child. For this reason, a Parent-Teacher---Student Compact has been developed and is utilized in our school. This document serves as

an agreement between all parties that they will adhere to certain duties and responsibilities to ensure the success of the student. It is reviewed and signed by all at the beginning of each school year. The signed compacts are kept by the teacher and used in student and parent conferences to remind each participant of their responsibilities. These compacts are also used to motivate students and parents to become more involved in the educational process and to let parents know that they are equal partners in their child's learning.

**PART IV. DISCRETIONARY CAMPUS WIDE PARENTAL and family engagement POLICY COMPONENTS**

The Campus Wide Parental and family engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for and family engagement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1116(e) of the ESEA:

- in order to maximize parental and family engagement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental and family engagement;
- establishing a school wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental and family engagement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental and family engagement activities

**PART V. ADOPTION**

This school wide Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by (sign-in sheet, meeting minutes etc.).

This policy was adopted by the School of Science & Technology Houston on September 27, 2019 will be in effect for the period of 2019-20 academic year. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before ~~October 14, 2019~~ via in person, on school website, and/or via email.

  
(Signature of Authorized Official)

09/27/19  
(Date)