

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School
Parent Family Engagement Policy
2021 - 2022

Statement of Purpose

Verdugo Woodlands is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every student. It is the goal to establish partnerships with parents and the community to encourage greater involvement and to promote high achievement by all students.

The Glendale Board of Education recognizes that parents/guardians are their student's first and most influential teachers and that continued parental involvement in the education of students contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment.

Parental Involvement

Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School shall jointly develop with and distribute to, parents of participating students a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents that shall describe the means for carrying out all Title 1 requirements for parent involvement. The policy is in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that parents can understand. This policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically, with the involvement of the School Site Council, to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

The school shall:

- Involve parents, “in an organized, ongoing and timely way,” in the planning, review, and improvement of school programs including the parental involvement policy and development of the school site plan;
- Provide timely information about programs to parents, describe the curricula, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- Provide opportunities for regular meetings where parents can provide input in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond promptly to parent suggestions;
- Provide parents with an opportunity to submit dissenting views to the district if a school's school wide program plan is not acceptable to them; and
- Provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in funded programs.

School-Parent Compact

The school shall jointly develop with parents a School-Parent Compact. The compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievements and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve high standards. The school, student, and parent sign the compact after it is discussed. A copy of the compact is kept at school and may be reviewed as a re-commitment to the promises made by signing. The School Site Council will evaluate the parent compact each year and suggest modification to enhance its value in establishing a team approach to education.

Building Parents' Capacity for Involvement

Verdugo Woodlands shall, but is not limited to provide the following:

- Assistance to parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, the assessments being used, and how to monitor their students' progress and work with educators to improve their achievement;
- Materials and training, such as literacy training and training on how to use technology, to help parents to work with their students to improve achievement;
- Teachers present instructional strategies related to the school's best practices at Advisory, PTA, or Foundation meetings;
- Educate teachers, pupil services 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 and the school;
- Encourage parent volunteers and maintain records of volunteer hours (PTA);
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs with Head Start and other preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their students "to the extent feasible and appropriate";
- Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities are sent to the parents of participating students in a format, and in a language the parents can understand; and
- Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents request.
- May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements, Verdugo Woodlands shall provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency and parents with disabilities. This includes providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

Evaluation

The School Site Council will be involved in the process of school review and improvement of the Parent Family Engagement Policy. There will be an annual evaluation of the parent involvement program each year.

Verdugo Woodlands is committed to parental involvement. This policy will be coordinated by the school principal, teacher specialist, and the School Site Council, and is promoted by all school staff.

Revised: 2021