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Hughes Springs Independent School District

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Hughes Springs Parent and Family Engagement Policy

ESSA Section 1116

2020-21

1. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will reach out to all parents and family members and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in programs consistent with the requirements of ESSA Section 1116. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children. Section 1116 (a)(1)

- District Facebook page, Skyward online gradebook, Skylert messaging system and website postings will be used to keep parents abreast of the latest information concerning their child's progress.
- At least twice yearly, face-to-face parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled for parents of each HUGHES SPRINGS ISD student. If the face-to-face format is not possible for the parent, the parent may choose to communicate by phone or email. Teachers will maintain a log of parent-teacher communications.
- At transition points such as preschool to kindergarten, elementary to middle, or middle to high school, HUGHES SPRINGS ISD campuses will invite parents to transitioning activities so that students and parents will understand what to expect next.
- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will host a Meet the Teacher Night at each campus, prior to school opening, at which families can meet their children's teachers, tour the school building and meet other parents.
- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide childcare to enable families to attend school-sponsored, family-involvement events.
- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will clearly communicate school policies to all families in their home languages.
- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will maintain a parent "suggestion or comment" box (electronic and onsite) for families to anonymously provide their questions, concerns and recommendations.

2. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD receives Title I, Part A funds. Our goal is to plan and implement effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Therefore, HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. Section 1116 (a)(2)

- The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency's plan developed under section 1112 (District Improvement Plan, DIP),
- The policy will establish the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement.
- A parent survey requesting input from parents on meaningful parent and family involvement activities was conducted in July of 2019.
- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD'S Parent and Family Engagement policy for the 2018-2019 school year was evaluated at the District Site-Based June 2019 meeting. At the HUGHES SPRINGS ISD'S October meeting, the committee (consisting of parents, community members, and staff) used the findings from the June evaluation, the spring parent survey, and current committee input to develop the 19-20 PFE policy. All parents of enrolled students were invited to this meeting to allow for additional input.
- Afterwards, the 2019-2020 PFE policy was posted on the school website, and a notification call was made advising parents of this post and that a written copy of the PFE policy is available upon request. Additionally, copies of the policy will be available in the offices at each campus, central office, and the Hughes Springs Library.

3. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the HUGHES SPRINGS ISD District Improvement Plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d). Section 1116 (a)(2)(A)

- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will create roles for parents on all decision-making and advisory committees, properly training them for the area in which they will serve (e.g., school safety planning, SHAC, etc.).
- This enlistment of parents for membership of HUGHES SPRINGS ISD committees will include membership on the District Site-Based Committee. The committee will meet at least four times per year wherein it will develop the Comprehensive Needs Assessment, develop the District Improvement Plan (DIP), monitor formative assessments of the DIP strategies/activities, and eventually conduct a summative assessment/evaluation of the DIP. The committee will hold at least one public meeting after receipt of the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), and additional parental input for the plan will be sought at that time.

4. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating campuses within the district, in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement

activities 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. Section 1116 (a)(2)(B)

- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will maintain district-business partnerships to provide student mentoring, internships and onsite, experiential learning opportunities.**
- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide a directory of community resources and activities that link to student learning skills and talents, including summer programs for students.**
- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will connect students and families to service-learning projects in the community.**

5. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs, including public 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 children; Section 1116 (a)(2)(C) and Section 1116 (e)(4)

- **Through district-community partnerships, HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will facilitate families' access to community-based programs (e.g., health care and human services) to ensure that families have resources to be involved in their children's education.**
- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will invite community partners to share resources at student/parent events.**
- **When possible, parent involvement meetings will be coordinated among booster clubs, special education, ESSA, migrant, ELL, etc.**

6. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying— Section 1116 (a)(2)(D)

- barriers to greater participation by parents 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; Describe when the DIP is typically updated and the role of the parents in this process.

HUGHES SPRINGS ISD'S Parent and Family Engagement policy for the 2020-2021 school year shall be evaluated at the District Site-Based June 2020 meeting. All parents of enrolled students will be invited to this meeting to provide input. Barriers to greater participation by parents in activities (as indicated above), needs of parents to assist with the learning of their children, and strategies to support successful school/family interactions will be discussed. Afterwards, a summary of the 2020-2021 PFE policy evaluation findings will be posted on the school website, and a notification call will be made advising parents of this posting.

7. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies; and Section 1116 (a)(2)(E)

Evidence-based strategies, suggested by parents and other committee members, from the evaluation of the HUGHES SPRINGS ISD PFE 2019-20 policy will be used to update and develop the 2020-2021 PFE policy and parent and family engagement program in October 2020.

8. HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will involve parents in the activities of the campuses served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy and provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. Section 1116 (a)(2)(F) and Section 1116 (e)(14)

- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD has a PTA, Band Booster Club, Athletic Booster Club, Ag Booster Club, UIL Parent Advisory Committee, and various other parent-led organizations. Title I, Part A information is disseminated at the campuses through their Annual Title I meetings. To solicit parent participation at the Annual Title I Meeting, publicity concerning the annual meetings is distributed to all parent-led organizations. Parent invitations for the annual Title I meetings will also be sent directly to parents.**
- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will conduct a survey of parents to identify volunteer interests, talents and availability, matching these resources to school programs and staff-support needs.**
- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities. Parents can make such requests by contacting the superintendent's office by email, in person, or by phone. Support can be transportation, translation services, physical access, printed materials, etc.**

9. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the campus involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, HUGHES SPRINGS ISD shall: Section 1116 (e)
(i) provide assistance to parents of children served by the local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of the parent and family engagement program, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; Section 1116 (e)(1)

- **HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will offer workshops to inform families of the State academic standards children are expected to**

meet in each grade level. These workshops will include how the campuses use progress monitoring and benchmarking to prepare individualized, targeted instruction to assist students in meeting these challenging standards.

- Parents will be advised of how to monitor their child's progress through weekly grades, progress reports, and six-week's grades.

- Parents will be asked to provide suggestions for educators in how educators might improve instruction to raise achievement levels for their children.

- The requirements of the parent and family engagement program will be discussed at the annual Title I meetings at the campuses.

(ii) provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; Section 1116 (e)(2)

- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide workshops and materials for parents on specific subject matter/curriculum at the appropriate grade level for their children and information as to what parents can be doing to support their child's learning.

- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will post on the district website and/or print suggestions for parents on home conditions (such as plenty of rest) that support learning at each grade level and provide printed information for parents on homework policies and on monitoring and supporting student work at home.

- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide information to parents on "home connections" available for technology applications.

- HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will provide training for parents on technology usage/abuse by students including copyright piracy.

(iii) educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, 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; Section 1116 (e)(3)

HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will solicit parent input on teacher training including the value of parent involvement through a spring survey. The district will provide this training on the "value and utility of the contributions of parents as equal partners with the teacher in the education of their child" during fall inservice. District personnel will attend parent and family engagement training at Region VIII ESC when provided.

(iv) ensuring that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; Section 1116 (e)(5)

HUGHES SPRINGS ISD will utilize translation services to ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in their home languages.