

Appendix IV: Cross Roads Junior High Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Statement of Purpose

Cross Roads Junior High is dedicated to providing quality education for every student in our district. To accomplish this objective, we will develop and maintain partnerships with parents and community members. Each student will benefit from supportive, active involvement of all members of the population. A positive link between home and school will create the most conducive learning condition for every child. These open communication lines will expand and enhance learning opportunities for all stakeholders.

All students will be expected to work toward mastering grade/subject level TEKS. Our campus recognizes the fact that some students will need extra assistance to achieve their full potential. The extra assistance is available to all students through the Title I program and various other educational services offered through the district.

Cross Roads Junior High intends to include parents in all aspects of the Title I program. Students will be given every opportunity for success through the development and enhancement of the home-school partnership.

Parent Involvement in Developing Policy

Cross Roads Junior High's Campus Improvement Planning and Decision Making Committee (Campus Committee) is comprised of parents, community members, business representatives, the administrator, teachers, and other staff members. This committee will meet annually to discuss the design and implementation of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Cross Roads Junior High will actively recruit volunteers for the Campus Committee through various avenues of publicity. Committee selections will produce a diverse group of stakeholders that represent an array of student populations served by the district. Meetings will be planned at convenient times and locations for all concerned parties.

Parent Involvement Activities to Improve Student Academic Achievement and School Performance

One of the primary functions of the Campus Committee will be to identify ways that Cross Roads Junior High can provide assistance and support to its campus to create effective parent involvement. The administration will assist the campus in understanding the requirements of Title I, Part A and in planning for effective programs to help parents in improving academic achievement. Campus assistance may also include the distribution of informational handouts, which explain state academic standards, assessments, and curriculum.

Cross Roads Junior High will also promote and encourage staff development for employees on establishing effective relationships with parents as a means to increase academic achievement.

Building the Schools' and Parents' Capacity for Strong Parent Involvement

Cross Roads Junior High will involve the Campus Committee in identifying barriers to parent involvement and to provide parent involvement strategies. The district will serve as a guide and resource for each campus. The school will support a variety of parental involvement strategies as it strives to develop and maintain an optimum learning environment for all students.

Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Cross Roads Junior High will hold an annual meeting to review Title I guidelines and services offered through the district. Copies of the campus's current Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Home-School Compact will be distributed at the meeting. Parents will be encouraged to become involved in revising and updating the policy as necessary, and parent volunteers will be recruited for the Campus Committee. The meeting will be held at a convenient time and location; notice of the meeting will be provided to parents.

Home-School Compact

In accordance with Title I regulations, the campus will develop and annually update a home-school compact. This compact will explain how students, parents, and staff will share responsibility for student performance and success, and will enable them to do so. Members of the Campus Committee will be consulted in the design and implementation of the compact. All parents will be given a copy of the compact detailing the responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students have in helping students accomplish their goals. Students and parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact.

School-Parent Communication

Parents will be informed of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. Newsletters, district website, district marquee, Blackboard notification system, Cross Roads ISD Facebook page, Remind App, Smore page, conferences, phone calls, personal contacts, teacher web pages, and written notices will be utilized to establish and maintain an open line of communication.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school and/or their child's teachers if they have any questions or concerns about the instructional program. Usually student or parent complaints or concerns can be addressed – simply by a phone call or a conference with the teacher.

Cross-Program Coordination of Parent Involvement Activities

Parent and family engagement strategies will be incorporated into Cross Roads Junior High's curriculum and programs through the Campus Improvement Plan. Parent

Involvement will be a top priority and will be aligned with the entire educational program. Cross Roads Junior High will coordinate Title I Parent Involvement activities with other programs within the district to meet special needs.

Annual Evaluation

The Campus Committee will annually review and evaluate all aspects of the parent and family engagement program by distributing surveys and collecting data campus-wide. Parent surveys including questions about the effectiveness of the program will be distributed and the results analyzed. Teacher surveys and teacher contact logs will be used to determine the number and kind of interaction between schools and parents. The Campus Committee will revise the Junior High Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact based on the results of this annual review.

Involving Parents in Activities of Title I Campuses

Cross Roads Junior High will use Title I funds to provide school-wide services to all students on the junior high campus. Parents will be involved in a variety of strategies as the campus strives to develop and maintain an optimum learning environment for all students. Parents may contribute through volunteer programs at our Title I campus, as well as by creating a supportive home atmosphere. The community may participate through an array of activities that promote student success. The campus and its parents will develop and maintain specific parent and family engagement activities best suited to meet the individual needs of all stakeholders.