

**Parental Involvement Policy for E.M. Pease Middle School  
Northside Independent School District  
2009-2010**

If students are to be successful, their parents or guardians must be actively involved in their education. Pease Middle School developed the following policy to describe how we involve parents in the development of policy and the School-Parent Compact. We seek to outline ways parents can help their children achieve in school and ensure parents with limited English proficiency or disabilities and parents of migratory students can participate in their children's education. This policy was developed with the assistance and approval of the parents of children participating in the Title 1 program, as well as teachers participating through our campus' site-based management committee, the School Advisory Team (SAT).

**Policy Involvement**

Each year we invite all parents of students who participate in the Title 1 program to an introductory meeting where school policies are outlined and presented and attendees are afforded an opportunity to seek answers to questions they may have. At this meeting we discuss Title 1 law, its requirements, and the rights and benefits to parents of children involved. We explain how parents can be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of Title 1 programs, as well as school policies. Throughout the year, we continue to host events on campus and invite parents to attend and participate.

**Program Involvement**

It is our goal to provide parents of children timely information about our Title 1 programs, including supplemental math and reading courses, before & after school tutoring, and other instructional enrichment programs including our Targeted Math program, our Collaborative Teach model, and our Academic Support Center. We provide opportunities for parents to gain a better understanding of our curriculum, explain our expectations for students, and speak to how we measure student performance. We review how our campus is doing on state tests such as the TAKS and other measures of performance such as district benchmarks.

**School-Parent Compact**

A district model for the School-Parent-Student compact was developed jointly with parents of participating Title 1 students and explains how parents, staff, and the student will all share responsibility for each student's academic success. Our compact for the 2009-2010 school year was sent home on the first day of school and should have been returned with a student and parent signature. Additional copies are available at the school.

**Building Capacity for Involvement**

It is part of E.M. Pease Middle School's role to help parents better understand how they can help their children learn. One way this is done is by explaining education laws and providing a forum for parents to seek answers to questions. Through informational Parent Nights hosted by each campus department, we are better able to assist our parents as they help assume the shared responsibility of educating children.

**Parent Training and Involvement**

Presentations are done to help parents know if a child is doing well, how they can work with educators to ensure student success, and how to be involved in the decision-making process about the education of their child. Materials and training are provided through our campus library, through presentations by academic departments and counseling staff, and through updated communications on our campus' website.

Training is also provided for campus staff. Teachers and other staff are trained in the importance of involving parents as partners in the educational process. Additionally, expectations for all staff to work on developing stronger parent partners are outlined.

The development of school-business partnerships that include activities for parents is also highly encouraged.

### **Accessibility**

Participation and involvement of ALL parents is important. Information related to student achievement, school performance, programs, meetings, and other opportunities for participation is sent home periodically and in the home-language, whenever possible. Additionally, a current campus website is maintained and offers up-to-date information for parents. Newsletters are also distributed to students for parent use that includes information from campus administration, Counseling staff, and the campus PTA.

In the event a parent needs communication in a language other than English or Spanish, our school strives to provide appropriate and accurate translated information, as feasible.

We ensure the ability of parents with disabilities to participate by providing handicapped access to all building facilities and classrooms.

Interpreters for the deaf and adaptations are provided when needed.

**Date Issued:** September 2009  
**Date Updated:** August 2009

**This policy complies with the Northside Independent School District's policies for parental involvement: EHBD (Legal) and EHBD (Local).**