

# Fort Stockton Middle School

## Parent Involvement Policy

The staff of Fort Stockton Middle School seeks to involve parents in an effective school-home partnership in order to provide the best possible education for our students. These parent involvement activities are integrated into the school master plan for academic accountability. Elements of this policy include:

### 1. Regular Communication With Parents:

In order to build consistent and effective communication between the home and the school, and to assist teachers and administrators to communicate effectively with parents in a timely manner, regular communication will include the following:

School Newsletter	Marquee Announcements
Annual School Calendar	Special Event/Reminder Notices
Six Weeks Report Cards	Intervention Meetings
Parent-Teacher Compacts	Interim progress reports for students who are working below grade level standards
Superintendent's Newsletter	Awards Assemblies
TEA School Report Card	AEIS Report
E-mail between teacher and parents	

Annually, the school will convene a meeting to which all parents of participating students are invited to inform the parents of the school's participation in the Title I program and of the parents' rights to be involved. (Annual Parent Meeting, Teacher-Parent Conferences) Campus Improvement Plan meetings provide opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions that the school may consider.

2. Parent Trainings: These are opportunities to help parents develop skills to use at home that support their children's academic efforts & social development. They provide parents with techniques and strategies that they may utilize to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home. A Parent Needs Assessment survey is

conducted. The FSMS Newsletter also gives many suggestions to parents concerning ways to help students.

### **3. Parent Support:**

#### **a) Homework**

Homework is assigned most school nights and serves a number of purposes: to practice and extend classroom learning, to develop responsibility and work habits, and to provide parents an opportunity to interact with their children and their education. Parents can support the school and their child's success by helping with homework in the following ways:

- 1) Help your child get organized. Remind him/her to bring home the necessary materials: binder, pencils, paper, etc.
- 2) Agree upon a regular study time and stick to it.
- 3) See that your child has a regular, suitable study place, with good light, plenty of room, and no distractions (TV, Phone, Family Noise, Etc.)
- 4) Ask to see what your child has done each night, and ensure that the work is returned to the teacher. Show interest in what he or she does in school.
- 5) Contact the teacher if your child has difficulty understanding an assignment. Our goal is to help your child reach grade level standards and beyond.

#### **b) Citizenship and Student Behavior**

Students are to display good citizenship in the cafeteria, on the playground, on the bus, and in the classroom. Staff and parents should work together to help children understand the meaning and importance of good citizenship.

Specific rights, rules and responsibilities regarding student behavior are detailed on the Student Rights and Responsibilities page of the Student/Parent Handbook.

Each student is provided with a copy of this handbook at the beginning of each school year.

**c) Parent Visitations**

A wonderful way to show your child you are interested in his/her life at school is to visit the classroom, and the school welcomes any parent who wishes to help or simply observe.

The following visitation guidelines will help minimize disruption of the class.

1. Schedule your visit with the classroom teacher and school office in advance, if possible.
2. Leave younger children at home, to lessen distractions if possible unless arrangements are made with the teacher.
3. The day you visit, stop by the office to sign in as a visitor and receive a visitor's badge.
4. When in the classroom, do not engage the teacher in conversation that would prevent her/him from supervising and interacting with the students.
5. Before leaving campus, please check out through the office.

**d) Parent Participation**

Parents are urged to involve themselves in one or more school or district committees. These committees meet periodically throughout the year to plan for student activities and academic programs, to discuss parent and staff concerns, to approve categorical program budgets, and to enhance parent understanding and skills. Without parent participation, our many extra programs could not exist, and our students would not be nearly so successful. Notices about meetings and of the activities listed below will be sent home regularly. Parents wishing to participate may contact the school office to volunteer or can normally just show up at the announced time and place.

- Campus Improvement Plan and District Improvement Plan Committees– Determine school improvement goals and prioritize budget expenditures for some categorical programs.
- Migrant Parent Advisory Council (PAC) – Assists in planning district programs for farmworker families. Information is provided to

parents concerning school programs, community resources, health concerns, legal rights, child development, etc.

- Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) – Assists in planning the program to serve English Language learners at the school site and explore opportunities for all students to learn English. The district LPAC helps set district English Language Learner program goals and plans for the spending of extra funding provided by the state for this purpose.

**Other opportunities for participation include:**

- School Site Activities
- Science Fair
- Band and Choir Concerts
- Athletic events
- Classroom Volunteer/Mentor
- Teacher/Parent Conferences
- ARD Meetings
- Intervention Meetings