



# Harker Heights High School

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy

### 2024-25

At Harker Heights High School, we are focused on doing what is best for students to create a learning environment where every Knight grows every day. We believe our students are more successful when there is a solid relationship between the home and school, and where parents and family members are valued partners in our students' education. Harker Heights High School pledges to offer parents and family members various opportunities to be involved. Here are a few of those opportunities.

**Communication** – At Harker Heights High School, we believe that clear communication is the foundation for a true partnership with our parents/guardians. We aim to build this foundation using the following channels:

- Phone calls with staff members
- Campus Website
- Conferences
- Newsletters
- Emails from staff
- Connect-Ed automated phone calls, texts, and/or emails
- Harker Heights High School Facebook & Instagram accounts

Parents may contact us through phone calls, email, notes, letters, or in person. We encourage parents and family members to contact their student's teacher when there is a concern, so we can work together in the student's best interest. We strive to send out correspondence in both English and Spanish. If you need the information to be translated into another language, please contact the school's office, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

**Parent and Family Member Learning** – We want to help you understand the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS); provide you information about STAAR and Killeen ISD assessments; explain how to monitor your student's progress; and help you use current technology to monitor student progress. We understand that our parents work, attend school, or have other responsibilities that impact their availability. To encourage parent involvement, we strive to schedule meetings at flexible times and dates to include both morning and evening opportunities.

**Annual Title I Meeting** – A public meeting will be held at the in May of the 2024-25 school year. This meeting will be offered more than once, on different days at different times to accommodate parents' schedules. All parents and family members are welcome and invited to attend. We want everyone to know about Title 1 and how we will use these funds to ensure our students are successful. We will review and revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the Home-School Compact, "Parents Right to Know," and how you can be involved in your student's education. You will learn about the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), academic assessments, and how we score on our most recent EOC results.

**Title I Program Evaluation** – Our Title I program is evaluated several times a year by our Site-Based Decision-Making Committee, which must include at least one parent representative. The SBDM Committee provides input for our Campus Improvement Plan and assists in making decisions about how Title I funds are spent. If you would like to serve on the SBDM Committee, please contact Dr. Soldevila, Principal of Harker Heights High School. We value your opinions and welcome all parents who would like to serve. For parents unable to participate on the SBDM Committee, an annual evening meeting is held for the purpose of evaluating the plan and gathering input on changes for the next school year. If for some reason, the CIP is not satisfactory to parents, comments about the CIP will be submitted to KISD.

**Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact** – We must review the current Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact every Spring. Parents and family members are an important part of this process. We will meet to discuss, review, and revise these documents for the next school year. We would appreciate your input. Publicity about his meeting will be available in the Spring semester. Both documents will be posted on our campus website so that parents, family members, and the community can access them. Our website will allow you to translate any posted information into more than 100 different languages. The Parent and

Family Engagement Policy will also be made available during our Annual Title I Meeting and will be included in our Student Handbook and on our website. Parents have the right to participate in decisions relating to their student's education.

**Volunteer Orientation** – Throughout the year, the Volunteer Coordinator for Harker Heights High School will hold volunteer orientation to outline KISD policies. If you would like to volunteer at Harker Heights High School, please contact Dr. Ivana Saxon at (254) 336-0800.

**Staff Awareness** – Our staff receives training each school year about the value of parent and family member contributions to our school. We encourage staff to reach out, build relationships, and work with parent partners to ensure that all students are successful in their learning. Our staff is kept informed of our various parent programs, their role in the implementation and coordination of the programs, and how they can encourage parent and family participation.

**KISD Parent and Family Member Classes** – KISD offers free classes of English as a Second Language, computers, and GED preparation. Empowered Parents workshops and the Parent Academy are also available. In addition, parents may attend and participate in the KISD Parent Advisory Council. Contact the Special Programs Department for more information at 254-336-0240.

Harker Heights High School will strive to maintain a positive learning environment where students can achieve academic excellence and where parents and family members feel welcomed and valued. We appreciate you.