



## **PARENT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY 2021-2022**

### **Swainston Middle School**

**1. The description provided of action to include parents and family members in the joint development or revision of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy.**

- A. This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the Swainston Middle School and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title I. Swainston Middle School convened an annual meeting, at a convenient time for parents to evaluate this policy. Meetings were held on November 18, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. A Spanish version of this document will be available for Spanish-speaking parents on our website. The school's Parent Family Engagement Policy developed by teachers, administrators, and parents, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. The Parent Family Engagement Policy and annual meeting information will also be made available to the community via the Swainston Middle School website.
- B. Districtwide parent survey results were shared with parents and family members during the annual Title I Parent Meeting on August 05, 2021. The data revealed great results for Swainston Middle School and parents are happy with the school performance. According to 2020-2021 District survey results, parents feel welcomed at Swainston Middle School and the school sees parents as a partner in their child's education. Parents feel that the teachers at Swainston MS really care about their children and are informed about the current curriculum being used at the school site. This information was used to form topics for PAC meetings and family night activities. A goal for 2021-2022 is to have more parents participate in taking the survey this school year by sending out an auto-dialer to remind parents of the importance of their feedback to the school.\*

**2. Plan for including parents in the writing of the School Performance Plan and Parent and Family Engagement Policy.**

Swainston Middle School involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, School Performance Plan, and Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Parents are invited to participate in school meetings related to school improvement and PAC meetings held monthly. This year, Parent and Family Engagement Policy revision meetings were held on November 18, 2021. Previous meetings were attempted on August 25, 2021 and September 08, 2021. No parents were present.

**3. Timeline for sending home the Educational Involvement Accord:**

The Educational Involvement Accord is integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review the Accord prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accord whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions.

**4. Swainston Middle School administration and staff will:**

- A. Provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet the state academic standards.

Assist parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor their student's academic progress, and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of their student.

Provide services on parenting tips, the academic program, help with goal-setting, educational websites, best practices occurring in the classrooms, understanding MAP/SBAC assessments, and academic vocabulary.

- B. Offer parent involvement activities at the school that will include opportunities for parents to volunteer and be involved in the following school activities:

- Staff development and parent education
- Parent home support for children's education
- Parent participation in school decision-making
- Effective communication between school and parent
- Parent family nights and for parent volunteering opportunities\*

Encourage parents to make learning fun by reading to and with their child from resources like newspapers, magazines, and books. Swainston MS will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievements, such as literacy training and appropriate technology use.

Provide access to educational resources for parents to use together with their children. These resources will include the book Distance Learning Playbook and a meeting with the counselors to help parents understand how to best use the book to support their children during Distance Learning. When schools reopen, these resources will also include family academic nights, standardized test awareness, Leader in Me training, and resources from FACES for parent meetings and schedules for parent training.\*

- C. Provide professional development and training to staff, in partnership with parents. The partnership between school, parent, teacher, and child is more positive when the parent is aware of the child's academic progress.

These training will include:

- The value and utility of contributions of parents
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs
- Building ties between parents and the school
- How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
- Suggestions for class newsletters, phone logs, and ongoing, positive communications

- D. Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, community meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Information will be posted to the school website, sent home via auto-dialer phone messages, and/or an email with attachments.
- E. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent engagement programs and activities with family nights, parent training, and other resources from the community through our Swainston MS social worker. Swainston offers many opportunities throughout the year for parent/family engagement and support.\*

Several programs are offered at Swainston Middle School: socio-emotional program electives from external programs, clubs, sports, and after-school tutoring to support student achievement.\*

- F. Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. This includes parent comments, suggestion sheets, and follow-up calls after parent-teacher conferences and meetings. Swainston makes every attempt to implement parental suggestions when feasible.

N.B. A copy of this Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be available on the school website.

### **\*COVID-19 Disclaimer**

#### **Background**

*On June 9, 2020, Governor Sisolak issued Declaration of Emergency Directive 022 requiring that school districts and charter schools develop plans for reopening school buildings, providing instruction, and related activities, based on Nevada's Path Forward: A Framework for a Safe, Efficient, and Equitable Return to School Buildings and any subsequent guidance issued by the Nevada Department of Education (NDE).*

*In addition, Directive 022 directed the Superintendent of Public Instruction to prescribe minimum requirements and a timeline for each county school district and charter school to develop, share with their community, receive governing board approval for, and submit to NDE a plan for a Path Forward Program of Distance Education.*

*Directive 022 indicated that such plans will contemplate 2020-2021 school year instruction offered through:*

- 1. In-person instruction following social distancing protocols;*
- 2. Distance education under an approved Path Forward Program of Distance Education; or*
- 3. A combination of distance education and in-person instruction is referred to in this guidance as hybrid learning.*

*Each of these scenarios is addressed in this guidance. Circumstances regarding COVID-19 are fluid and social distancing protocols and other health and safety requirements are subject to change based on the advice of public health officials, including the State's Chief Medical Officer. Therefore, as described in the Framework for a Safe, Efficient, and Equitable Return to School Buildings, districts/schools should create reopening plans to address multiple potential reopening scenarios, including full-time distance education for all students, in-person instruction following social distancing protocols, and hybrid learning as described in the guidance.*

*\*To see the full State of Nevada Department of Education Guidance Memorandum 20-05 click on the link below: [Path Forward Distance Education Guidance Memo 20-05](#)*