



WATAUGA MIDDLE SCHOOL TITLE I, PART A PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Watauga Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Policy is to promote a highly effective working partnership among families and staff. Watauga Middle has adopted the policy to ensure that we provide parents and families with substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate as equal partners in the education of their children. The campus will build capacities of staff, parents, families, and community members to work together as equal partners to improve achievement for all students.

Goals

- WMS will promote regular, two way communication between home and school
- Parents, families, educators, and community members assist in improving student achievement by supporting family involvement in the education of their children
- WMS will provide a safe and open atmosphere for parents and families to visit the school and to actively encourage parent and family support and assistance for school programs
- WMS staff will develop and deliver timely information and training to parents
- WMS will respond to such barriers as language, culture, education levels and work schedules of parents and families that may limit opportunities to participate fully in the education of their children
- Parents and families support their children's learning at home and in school and serve as their children's advocate
- WMS will disseminate information to parents on all required Title 1 notifications

Annual meeting

Watauga Middle School will hold an annual parent meeting to educate parents about Title I funding and how it will be used to support the parent and family engagement. The campus will also host a flexible number of meetings with parents throughout the school year. A primary goal of these meetings will be to establish parents as equal partners in their child's academic achievement.

Parents' Right to Know

Watauga Middle School will provide parents with an annual notification that outlines the parents' right to know about the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct their child, as well as any paraprofessionals who provide services to the child.

Building Capacity for Parent-School Partnerships

Watauga Middle School will facilitate the use of district resources by parents and families, including those provided through Birdville ISD parent liaisons and staff:

- Training for parents in understanding students' state and local assessment and screener results
- Other parent trainings based on identified needs and requests
- Links to external agency resources, as needed
- Parenting skills classes
- ESL classes
- Homework help training
- Translation services for homework
- Interpreter services for ARD, LPAC, counseling, psychological evaluations, teacher/principal conferences with parents at Title I, Part A schools, district meetings, PTA, and others

School-Parent Compacts

Watauga Middle School will jointly develop and share with parents a school-parent compact. The school-parent compact outlines how parents, staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It also describes the necessary partnership that must develop between the school and its families through regular two-way, meaningful communication. Watauga Middle will undertake an annual collaborative review of its school-parent compact and make revisions as needed.

Watauga Middle School has a responsibility to:

- Implement high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment
- Utilize relevant sections of the school-parent compact to guide parent-teacher conferences
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their child's progress
- Offer parents reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities
- Initiate and respond to parent communications

Parent responsibilities to support their child's learning include:

- Ensuring regular attendance
- Participating in decisions related to their child's education
- Monitoring positive use of extracurricular time, establishing healthy habits, and modeling literacy at home
- Completing an online volunteer registration form and volunteering on campus, whenever practical
- Initiating and responding to school communications

Parent Engagement Evaluation

Each spring, Watauga Middle School will assemble a team, including Title I parents, teachers, and staff members, to review the content and effectiveness of family engagement policies and programs. Evaluation information will be collected through parent surveys that gauge levels of family engagement while identifying barriers to parent participation. Based on this input and through a collaborative consultation process, the campus will review the existing family engagement policy and make revisions as necessary.