**Parent and Family Engagement Policy  
South Junior High School  
2020-2021**

At South Junior High school our mission is to provide a safe and secure environment that promotes a positive school experience. Our goal is to offer a standards-based, best-practices curriculum that allows all students an opportunity to achieve academically as well as to grow socially and emotionally. We believe in the importance of all stakeholders working collectively to maximize individual success.

**GENERAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS**

With contributions from parents on the School Site Council, the ELAC Committee, the Parent/Community Engagement Team, and the PTSA this document was created and will be continually evaluated. Those parents who did not participate on any of the above groups were asked for input at meetings through surveys and/or community events. It was based on this data that many of the items included in this plan came to fruition.

This policy shall be distributed to parents in the South Junior High "Policy Pages" in the registration packet and posted on the South Junior High website: <http://south.auhsd.us.> It will also be reviewed and explained in detail at parent meetings at the beginning of the school year so that parents are aware of their rights and given the opportunity to provide input.

South Junior High recognizes the importance of parent involvement in the success of its students. With this in mind, we strive to provide a wide array of resources and activities to assist parents in developing the skills to help their children achieve. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) mandates that the following numbered items be provided by a school receiving Title I funding. The bulleted lists indicate activities that have and/or will take place on the South Campus yearly in order to comply with these federal guidelines. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend such activities and volunteer to participate in school’s functions.

**INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS IN TITLE I PROGRAM**

1. Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I requirements and their right to be involved in the Title I program.

* The annual Title I informational meeting
* A letter outlining the school-wide Title I Program is included in the registration packet.
* South Junior High also provides this information during registration.
* A welcome meeting is held at Back-to-School Night to inform parents of the programs at South Junior High and how they can be involved.
* Monthly School Site Council meetings are held to inform all stakeholders of categorical funding and requirements.

1. Offer a flexible number of engagement meetings at convenient times for families.

* Meetings are held at a variety of times and, if possible, in connection with other events occurring at the school.
* Site Council Meetings are held monthly immediately after school.
* English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) meetings are held in the evening or late afternoon.
* Coffee with the Principal meetings are held in the morning.
* Parent Learning Walks are held in the mornings.
* Coffee with the Principal meetings are held in the mornings.
* Various parent workshops (GRIP, Parent Leadership Academy, etc.) are held in the evenings.

1. Provide parents and families with information about Title I funded programs, an explanation of the curriculum and achievement levels the school uses; and if requested, opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decisions relating to the education of their student.

* Counselors provide various workshops and meetings during the school year to inform of the A-G requirements.
* During Back to School Night, all teachers provide parents with an explanation of the curriculum in their classes and an explanation of the grading process and achievement levels.
* MTSS Coordinator communicates with parents and work with teachers to MTSS model for struggling students.
* The School Site Council meets monthly to update parent, student, and teacher representatives on all Title I funded programs on campus.
* The Family and Community Engagement Specialist is available to guide parents through Aeries, Haiku, and other instructional software when needed.
* Progress reports, quarter and semester grades are sent home with students in their home language to help inform parents of their academic progress.
* Regularly updated school and district websites offers up to date information for all stakeholders.
* Monthly ELAC meetings.

1. Jointly develop with parents of low-income students a School-Parent Compact that outlines how families, school, staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help student achieve state standards.

* School-Parent Compact was developed in conjunction with teachers, administrators, parents and students. The compact outlines how parents, students and the entire school staff will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.

The School-Parent Compact describes the following items:

* + Teachers’ responsibility to provide a high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the California standards.
  + Parents’ responsibility to support their children in learning.
  + The importance of communication between family members and school staff in a language that everyone can understand.

1. Ensure effective involvement of parents and support a partnership among school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement by the following activities.

* Parents are regularly invited to workshops that provide insights in various aspects of education such as: A-G requirements, anti-bullying, drugs and gangs interventions, and social media awareness.
* Teachers and staff regularly attend professional development to enhance their communication skills to better reach out to parents.
* Administrators, teachers or counselors will contact parents regularly to update parents on students’ academic progress.

**PART III. ADOPTION**

This policy was adopted by South Junior High’s School Site Council on November 19, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of one year.