



Harrison Middle School Title I School–Wide Family Engagement Policy

Vision

Parents are their children’s first and most important teachers. When the school and parents are involved cooperatively, positive results occur. These include high student achievement, reduced absenteeism, improved behavior, and a feeling of confidence regarding the partnership between home and school.

Part I: Policy Involvement

The Harrison Middle School Title I School–Wide Parent Involvement Policy was created as a collaborative effort between parents and staff. Parents played a key role in the development of this policy and we will continue to utilize their feedback and suggestions in order to update and improve our School–Wide Title I Program. 1118 (b)

HMS will convene an annual meeting: 1118 (c) (1)

- Harrison Middle School will hold an annual meeting for all parents at the beginning of the school year;
- The purpose of the meeting will be to explain our Title I program and how parents can be involved to help their child be successful.
- Parents will be notified of the meeting through a variety of communications, including letters, emails and personal contacts.

HMS will offer flexible meeting times and varied activities designed to support and encourage involvement of all parents: 1118 (c) (2)

Harrison Middle School will ensure the involvement of all parents by offering the following opportunities/activities:

- August Orientation
- Parent Workshops
- Regular Parent School Improvement Team/Focus Group Meetings
- Parent–Teacher Conferences

- Flexible IEP Meeting Times
- Annual Title I Meeting
- Access to HMS Parent Liaison
- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- Communication through student planners, email, School Messenger System and School Website
- School and Classroom Newsletters
- Opportunities for Parent Volunteers
- Curriculum Parent Nights

HMS will involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving the School–Wide Title I program, including the School and District Parent Involvement Policy: 1118 (c) (3).

Harrison Middle School will ensure the involvement of parents in planning and reviewing the School–Wide Title I program through the following activities:

- Title I staff will hold an informational meeting at the beginning of the school year.
- A parent climate survey will be distributed by May for all parents.
- The Parent SI Team and all interested parents will plan, review, and improve school policies, procedures, and programs at regularly scheduled Parent SI meetings throughout the school year.
- Parents will be invited to participate and serve on school and district level School Improvement Teams.
- Parents will be given multiple opportunities to volunteer and participate through sign-up sheets at school functions, school website information, volunteer/interest inventories given at the beginning of the school year, as well as contacts through the HMS Parent Liaison.

HMS will provide timely information about the School–Wide Title I Program, the academic curriculum, assessments used to measure progress, and grade level expectations: 1118 (c) (4) (A) and (B).

Harrison Middle School will provide timely information to parents via the following:

- Parent Workshops

- August Orientation
- Parent SI Meetings
- District, School and Teacher Websites
- Title I Annual Meeting
- Curriculum Parent Night
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- Student Planners
- School and Classroom Newsletters
- Skyward On-line Grading System
- MEAP Proficiency Report
- Parent Liaison Contact
- IEP Meetings
- PA25 Annual Report

HMS will provide parents the opportunity to interact with teachers regarding the education of their children and include parents in the decision making process, utilize their suggestions for improvement, revise the School-Wide plan to meet student and parent need and share revisions with LEA: 1118 (c) (4) (C) and 1118 (c) (5).

Harrison Middle School will provide these opportunities to parents via the following:

- Parent Climate Survey given to all parents by May of each school year.
- Parent School Improvement Team meetings
- District School Improvement meetings
- Parent Workshops
- Curriculum Parent Night
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Parent Liaison contacts
- School Email System

- Annual Title I meeting
- Parent Volunteer Opportunities to participate with building school improvement tasks

Part II: Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

HMS will develop jointly with parents and teachers a School/Parent/Student Compact. The compact will outline ways in which the parents, school staff, and students will work together to ensure high students academic achievement. 1118 (d) (1) and 1118 (d) (2) (A)

- The School/Parent/Student compact is developed with parent input and reviewed annually.
- Review and Revisions are conducted via staff meetings and Parent SI meetings.
- The compact is given to all parents and students each fall.

HMS will provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress: 1118 (d) (2) (B)

Harrison Middle School will provide various academic reports to parents including the following:

- Report Cards at the end of each trimester
- Progress reports at least once each trimester and on an as-needed basis
- Parent contact regarding progress for at-risk students
- Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences and conferences on an as-needed basis
- Skyward On-line Grading System
 - Availability of daily and weekly progress reports per parent and/or teacher request
 - Parent contact through Interventionist and/or Parent Liaison
 - Two-Way Communication through teaching staff, Title I staff, administration and/or counselor
 - Phone and Email Communications

HMS will afford parents reasonable access to staff and provide opportunities for parents to volunteer participate and observe in their child's classroom: 1118 (d) (2) (C)

Harrison Middle School has an open door policy for parents with both administration and staff in accordance with building safety procedures. Parents are given a volunteer interest inventory at the beginning of the school year. A volunteer list is compiled according to parent interests for future contact as opportunities for volunteers become available. Parents are also encouraged to attend and participate in the following regularly scheduled activities:

- Parent School Improvement meetings
- Content–Area meetings
- Curriculum Parent Night
- Field Trips when chaperones are needed
- Science Olympiad and Math Competition events
- Hornet Pride Celebrations
- Parent Workshops
- Classroom Speakers
- Classroom Observations/Visitations scheduled upon request

Part III: Building Capacity for Involvement

HMS will provide information and assistance to parents regarding the state and local academic standards and assessments:

1118 (e) (1): via the following:

- Website access to Core Curriculum State Standards

- CCSS Information available at Parent–Teacher Conferences
- Curriculum Parent Night
- Local Assessment information: benchmark assessments, content–area pre/post tests, MEAP results, STAR
Math/Reading etc. shared with parents throughout school year at various events

HMS will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s achievement: 1118 (e) (2)

Harrison Middle School will provide the following training opportunities to parents throughout the school year:

- August Orientation Sessions
- Parent Workshops throughout the school year
- Curriculum Parent Night
- Skyward Training
- Information for Extended Day Learning, Summer School, and S.P.A.R.K.S
- Community Events Information as it becomes available to HMS
- Community Resource Information as needed
- Parent School Improvement participation
- District and School Website Information

HMS will educate teachers, Title I staff and administration regarding the value of parent involvement, ways to communicate effectively with parent, and implementation of parent programs: 1118 (e) (4)

Harrison Middle School values and respects parent involvement in the school community. Parent involvement will be part of the School Improvement Plan and will work to coordinate programs to ensure success for all through the following activities:

- Transition to 6th grade activities to educate parents and students on middle level expectations
- Transition to high school activities to educate parents and students on high school expectations
- Parent School Improvement activities to gather parent input, ensure positive communication and meet the needs of parent through program planning
- Coordination with S.P.A.R.K.S., Chartwell's food service and community programs that enhance parent involvement and communication
- Effectively utilize Parent Liaison and Interventionist
- Provide ongoing education to staff concerning at-risk populations

HMS will inform parents of school and parent programs in a timely and practical format in a language they can understand:

1118 (e) (5): via the following:

- School and Classroom Newsletters
- District, School and Classroom Websites
- Local Newspaper
- Parent Liaison Communications
- On-line Daily Announcements
- School Messenger System
- Accommodations available as needed

HMS will provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents request: 118 (e) (14)

Harrison Middle school will make every effort to accommodate parent requests to ensure that students and parents individual needs are met in order to foster positive parent involvement. The Parent Liaison and HMS staff will ensure increased communication and reasonable accommodations upon request.

Part IV: Accessibility

HMS will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children: 1118 (f)

Harrison Middle School will provide full opportunities for parents under this section, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand, in carrying out the Parental Involvement Policy. These opportunities shall include:

- Flexible meeting time
- Handicapped accessible facilities
- Transportation assistance under the provisions of the School Improvement Plan
- School/Classroom communications written in a language understood by parents
- Collaboration with community agencies to enhance appropriate modes of communication
- Parent Liaison Services
- Other accommodations available as needed