



# School Parent, Guardian, and Family Engagement Plan 2023-2024

## School: Renaissance West STEAM Academy

### I. Parent and Family Engagement Policy

A. SIT Committee Members for the 2023-2024 School Year:

#### B. Briefly describe the process your school used to:

The School Improvement Team met to discuss the Parent and Family Engagement Policy during their first meeting of the school year (September). Ms Alisa Jones- School Parent and Family Advocate, discussed the information with the SIT.

### II. Annual Information Meeting

A. Parents were invited to a Curriculum and Instruction Family Event on October 4, 2023 from 5:30- 7:00pm. There, parents were informed of the Title 1 legislation, its implications for Renaissance West STEAM Academy, and the impact Title 1 will have on the school. Parents were provided a handout of the slides at that event. A screencast of the presentation is posted on the school website along with a PDF version of the slides. The slides have been interpreted into Spanish for our Latinx Families and shared on the website as well.

### III. Flexible meeting times

A. All meetings/parent events will occur after school hours to ensure that our parents/guardians have equal access to the events. Family event dates will be held from 5:00-6:30pm on the following dates:

Aug 24, 2023 Oct 5, 2023 Dec 6, 2023 Feb 22, 2024 Mar 21, 2024 May 2, 2024

### IV. Title I Part A Planning

A. We plan to receive input from parents during our monthly SIT meetings and monthly PTSA meetings. PTSA meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month. All SIT meetings will be held via zoom. Below are the dates for our SIT meetings:

Sep 28, 2022 Oct 26, 2022 Nov 16, 2022 Dec 14, 2022 Jan 25, 2023 Feb 22, 2023 Mar 22, 2023  
Apr 26, 2023 May 24, 2023

### V. Parent Information and Opportunities

A. Parent Square is an app that we will use this year to communicate important information with our Families. Parents will receive information from their child's teacher, the administration team, athletics, and special areas/electives through the platform.

1. **Timely information about Title I Part A Programs:** Parents will be informed via Parent Square, Connect 5 messages, Paper flyers, and via the school website.

- 2. School performance profiles:** All school performance information is available on the school website. Parents also have access to Indistar: our School Improvement Plan Platform.
- 3. Assessment results of their child's performance:** Progress reports are sent out to parents and parents have access to Powerschool to view student progress and grades.
4. A description and explanation of the curriculum, assessment forms, and proficiency levels and state standards. Include strategies to inform parents with language barriers and/or disabilities
- 5. Opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decision making:** Parents are encouraged to attend/join the school PTSA as well as all SIT meetings. Dates were listed above.
- 6. Timely responses to suggestions and questions raised by parents**
- 7. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in child's class:** Volunteering is encouraged at our school. We have information available on the school website.

## **VI. School-Family Compact:**

A. The School- Family Learning Compact was sent home on September 11th in two languages (English and Spanish). The Compact was also shared on the school website.

## **VII. Building Parent and Family Engagement Capacity**

A. Briefly discuss how you will address the following:

### **1. Provide assistance to parents in understanding performance standards, assessment, Title I, monitoring their child's progress, and participating in decisions relating to the education of their child:**

We held our Annual Title I meeting along with our Curriculum and Information Night on September 29th to inform parents of our current performance standards, how we monitor student progress, and how they can participate in decisions relating to the education of their child. Parents are also directed to the school website to learn/refresh their understanding of the provided material. All of our families are invited to call the school whenever a question or concern arises.

### **2. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children (literacy training, computer skills, homework assistance/workshops, family literacy nights, adult EL, GED etc.):**

We have 5 parent engagement nights planned with each event being strategically planned to expand the capacity of our parents to help educate their children and become engaged members of the school community. Each team will plan their event with a clear focus and the plan will be approved by the School Administration Team to ensure it is aligned with the overall vision of the school.

Mrs. Jones shares opportunities through Parent Square bi-weekly to help inform parents of training opportunities, job opportunities, or additional resources in the community. We maintain a partnership with RWCI who provides Family Life Navigators for our families. Family Life Navigators work in various communities by coaching and providing resources to assist families with their navigation through life.

### **3. Educate teachers and other staff to work with parents:**

A major focus of the professional development provided to teachers this year will be in how to be culturally responsive in our lessons but also our engagement with families and community members. Each teacher received the book "Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain" by Zaretta Hammond. We will have book studies and training aligned with the text and improving our ability to relate and respond to the needs of our families.

### **4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs/activities:**

All families at Renaissance West are encouraged and reminded to attend all events (family engagement nights, athletic events, school performances, school improvement team meetings, etc). Parents receive information on Parent Square, Connect 5 messages, and paper flyers. All information is sent out in English and Spanish.

### **5. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses through community partnership:**

Family Advocate hosts monthly meetings with community stakeholders to share updates on school progress, activities and needs.

**6. Conduct other activities as appropriate and feasible that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child:**

Family events are planned to engage and empower partners to be partners in their children's education. Surveys are taken at the events to determine the effectiveness of the event.

**7. Ensure that information related to parent involvement is sent home in the language used in the home:**

The school interpreter translates documents and flyers to ensure that information related to parent involvement is accessible to all families.

**VIII. English Learners and Disabled Parents and Families**

**A. Provide full opportunities for the participation of English Learner parents or with disabilities:**

Renaissance West now has a full time Spanish Interpreter on staff to assist parents and families who are not fluent in Spanish. We also have a partnership with Concilio Hispano and Renaissance West Community Initiative (RWCI). RWCI provides Family Life Navigator, they have 2 Spanish speaking Family Life Navigator on staff working with our Latinx Families. Renaissance West will also partner with CPCC to provide English classes for families.

**IX. Parent/Family Requests**

**A. Describe how you will provide reasonable support for activities requested by parents and families.**

Parents are encouraged to call the front office and speak with someone on the administrative team when concerns or questions arise. Each grade has a specified administrator who will respond to concerns from parents. Parents can also submit emails from the school website.

**X. Annual Evaluation**

**A. Discuss timeline and plan for involving parents and families in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools.**

An annual evaluation of the parent involvement policy will be conducted at SIT meetings in January and May. SIT will determine if the policy is being implemented effectively.