



# Timber Ridge Elementary School

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## Parent and Family Engagement Policy

### 2018-2019

The staff at Timber Ridge Elementary take pride in doing what is best for students while promoting a love of learning and academic growth. All parents and family members are welcomed and valued. At Timber Ridge Elementary, “We are committed to respond collectively and collaboratively to the needs of ALL Rangers through the use of research-based best practices.”

**Communication** We believe communication between home and school is a two-way street. We stay in touch with parents and family members in several ways: student planners for students in first through fifth grades, weekly communication folders, fliers, KISD TV channel, campus marquee, monthly newsletters, campus website, Connect-Ed automated phone calls, notes, letters, emails, phone calls, progress reports and report cards. Teachers will schedule parent conferences during the first nine weeks of school and then as needed. Additionally, Home Access Center is available to view grades for students in first through fifth grades as well as to monitor attendance and interventions at all grade-levels. Access will be granted by the Attendance Secretary.

Parents and family members may contact us through phone calls, notes, letters, emails, the weekly communication folder, and student agendas. We strongly encourage parents to contact their student’s teacher when there is a concern so that we can work together for the interest of the student. Parents may contact teachers/administrators to schedule conferences any time they have a concern. Written materials will be sent home in English. If we need to translate things into another language, please contact the school office. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.

**Parent and Family Member Learning** We will help you understand the challenging Texas academic standards, give you information about STAAR and KISD assessments, explain how to monitor your child’s progress, and how to work with teachers as a team to help your student. Other classes will offer ways to help your child at home, including how to work with current technology. We understand that our parents work, attend school, or have other responsibilities that limit their schedules. To encourage parent involvement, we strive to schedule key meetings and classes at flexible times and dates to include morning and an afternoon/evening session. Send suggestions for learning topics to our Parent Program point of contact. If parents would like to have regular meetings to make suggestions about their child’s education, please contact Principal Tanya Dockery at 254-336-6630.

**Little Rangers Literacy Club** Siblings of Timber Ridge students are invited to bring their parents to our Little Rangers Literacy Club. During Little Rangers time, our parent liaison provides activities that make learning a fun experience and gives parents tips on early reading activities to do at home. It’s a great way to spend time with your child.

**Annual Title 1 Meeting** Our annual Title 1 meeting is held in September of every school year. This meeting is offered at flexible times and dates that are convenient to parents. All parents and family members are invited to attend. We want everyone to know about Title 1 and how we use these funds to ensure that students are successful. We will discuss the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, the Home-School Compact, "Parents Right to Know" and how you can be involved in your child's education. You will learn about the curriculum we use, academic assessments, and what our latest STAAR scores look like.

**Title 1 Program Evaluation** Our Title 1 program is evaluated several times a year by our Site Based Decision Making (SBDM) committee, which must include at least one parent representative. SBDM provides input on our Campus Improvement Plan and assists in making decisions about how some Title 1 funds are spent. If you would like to serve on SBDM, please contact Principal Tanya Dockery. We value your opinions and welcome all parents who would like to serve. For parents unable to participate in SBDM, an annual evening meeting is held for the purpose of evaluating the plan and gaining parent input on changes for the upcoming year. Note, if for some reason the CIP is not satisfactory to parents, parent comments about the CIP will be submitted to KISD.

**Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact** We need your help! We must review our current Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Home-School Compact every spring. Parents and family members are a crucial, required part of this process. We meet together to discuss and make changes to these documents for the next school year. We must have your input. Publicity about this meeting will be available in January. Both of these documents are posted on our campus website so that parents, family members and the community have access to them. Our website will allow you to translate any posted information into any one of 107 different languages. The parent policy is also made available during our Annual Title 1 meeting and is included in our Student Handbook. Parent conferences were held in the first nine weeks to discuss the Home-School Compact and your child's achievement. Parents have the right to participate in decisions relating to their child's education.

**Volunteer Orientation** At the start of the school year, and throughout the year, our volunteer coordinator conducts a volunteer orientation to outline KISD policies. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Denise Smith at 254-336-6630.

**Staff Awareness** Our campus staff receives training each year about the value of parent and family member contributions at school. We stress how to reach out to, build ties with, and work with parents as equal partners to make sure that all students are successful in their learning. Our staff is kept up to date on our various parent programs, their role in the implementation and coordination of the programs, and how they can encourage parent and family participation.

**KISD Parent and Family Member Classes** KISD offers classes free of charge for English as a Second Language, computers, and GED preparation. Empowered Parents workshops and the Parent Academy are also available. In addition, parents may attend and participate in the KISD Parent Advisory Council. Contact the Special Programs Department for more information at 254-336-0240.