

Alice W. Douse Elementary School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2021 – 2022

The staff at Alice W. Douse Elementary School takes 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 Douse, we are committed to fostering a solid foundation of learning, for all students to become critical thinkers who live with integrity and are prepared for their role as responsible citizens of the future.

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, weekly take-home folders, fliers, campus marquee, campus website, Connect-Ed automated phone calls, notes, letters, emails and phone calls.

Parents and family members may contact us through phone calls, notes, letters, emails, weekly take-home folders and student planners. We strongly encourage parents to contact their student's teacher when there is a concern so that we can work together for the good of the student. If we need to translate things into another language, please contact the school office. We will do our best to accommodate you.

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 stay current with new 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 at flexible times and dates to include a morning and evening session. Send suggestions for learning topics to our Parent Program point of contact. If parents would like to have a meeting to make suggestions about their child's education, please contact Principal Ford at 336-7480, Stephanie.Ford@killeenisd.org.

Little Rattlers Literacy Group Siblings of Alice W. Douse students are invited to bring their parents to our Little Rattlers Literacy Group. During Little Rattlers time, our counselor 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. Little Rattlers Literacy Group is for siblings 2 – 4 years of age and not currently enrolled in school. If you would like more information, please contact Mr. Ben Ray, 254-336-7480, Ben.Ray@killeenisd.org.

Annual Title I Meeting Our Annual Title I meeting is held in October and in February 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 I 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 I Program Evaluation Our Title I program is evaluated several times a year by our Site Based Decision Making committee, which must include at least one parent representative. SBDM provides input on our Campus Improvement Plan and assists in making decisions about how Title I funds are spent. If you would like to be a part of SBDM, please contact Principal Ford. We value your opinions and welcome all parents who would like to serve. For parents unable to participate in SBDM, an annual meeting is held for the purpose of evaluating the plan and gaining parent input on changes for the upcoming school 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 any 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 I Meeting and is included in our Student Handbook. The Home-School Compact is discussed during your first parent/teacher conference. Your child's teacher will also provide you with information about your child's achievement during the conference. Parents have the right to participate in decisions relating to their child's education.

Volunteer Orientation At the start of every new school year, and throughout the year, our volunteer coordinators conducts a volunteer orientation to outline KISD policies. Volunteer Orientation will be offered at flexible times each month. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Ben Ray or Monica Howell, 254-336-7480, Ben.Ray@Killeenisd.org or Monica.Howell@killeenisd.org.

Staff Awareness Our campus staff receives training each school 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.