

Santiago School

A California Distinguished School

Parent Involvement Policy

The staff of Santiago School believes that involving parents and working together will form a successful education partnership. This partnership will work to meet the needs for the best possible education for our students.

At Santiago School we strive to provide timely information to our parents regarding school Title 1 and other programs, parent rights and responsibilities, discipline policies, student progress, school test results, grading practices, school curriculum, and student promotion requirements. These parent activities are integrated into the school's Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA).

Home/School Communication:

Parents are informed in English and Spanish about community resources and services, and are actively involved in on-going, two-way communication between the home and school.

- Santiago School Website with School Events, News and Resources
- Monthly Parent Newsletters
- Annual School Calendars
- Special Events/Reminder Notices
- Edulink Phone Messages
- Parent Portal
- School-Home Compact
- School Accountability Report Card
- Ongoing Personal Contact Between Teachers/Administrators and Parents
- Trimester Report Cards/Mid-trimester Progress Reports
- Parent-Teacher Report Card Conferences
- Academic Improvement Plans Collaboratively Developed by Teacher and Parents
- Annual Title 1 Parent Meeting – reviewing programs, policies and rights under Title 1
- Parent Meetings Offered in Morning and Evening Hours
- Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Meetings
- Student Success Team (SST) Meetings
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Meetings
- Monthly Awards Assemblies & Trimester Honor Roll Celebrations
- School Assemblies

Parent Participation:

Parents are encouraged to involve themselves in both school and district committees. Committees approve categorical program budgets, plan student activities, discuss academic programs, address parent concerns, and work to increase parents' understanding and skills related to their children's education. Notices about meeting and opportunities to get involved are sent home in English and Spanish.

Home-School Partnership:

Parents are engaged as full partners in the education of their children. A School-Home Compact has been developed jointly by school staff and parents that outlines how each party contributes to high

academic achievement in students. This compact emphasizes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction and parents' responsibility to support their children's learning.

Parents Training/Parent Support:

Santiago School strives to increase parent participation through volunteering activities, having parents involved in the decision-making process and collaboration within the community. Santiago School supports parent involvement by providing opportunities that help parents develop skills to use at home to support their children's academic efforts and social development. Parent activities may include:

- Explanation of state standards, curriculum and assessments for each grade level
- Understanding the California Standards Test (CST) and its proficiency levels
- Evaluating own child's CST and other assessment results
- Family Learning Activities focused on helping parents support children's learning
- Attendance at parent conferences, school wide events, and recognition assemblies
- Volunteering in classrooms and at school events sponsored by the PTA

As other opportunities arise and based on parent interest, other trainings may be provided. In addition, staff will be educated on how to reach out and work effectively with parents as equal partners.

Homework:

Homework is an important part of the educational process. Assignments completed at home help the child and teacher in reaching instructional objectives more quickly and thoroughly. Every student should plan on setting aside a reasonable portion of each evening for this phase of the school. Parents can support the school and their children's success by helping with homework in the following ways:

- Help your children get organized. Remind them to bring home necessary materials.
- Have a regular study time and place
- Ask to see completed nightly homework
- Contact your child's teacher if your child has difficulty understanding an assignment.

School Citizenship and Discipline Policy:

All children have equal rights to an education in a safe, nurturing, and orderly environment. Students are to display good citizenship in the cafeteria, on the playground and in the classroom. It is the Principal's role to establish a climate that fosters these rights. Each child will be treated with respect and dignity. Fair and consistent rules have been established at Santiago School to maintain a learning environment desired by our community, parents, students, and all staff.

Parents and Visitors:

According to district policy, all parents, volunteers, and visitors might sign in and out at the school office before going to any classrooms or onto the school grounds. When it is necessary to withdraw your child from class for appointment, etc., please come to the office to sign your child out and again to sign him/her back in upon return.

Attendance & Tardies:

Regular attendance is essential to a student's success in school. If a student is absent, his/her parent/guardian must call the school on the day of absence(s), or write a note upon their return. Prompt arrival at school is expected of all students. Late arrival disrupts class and causes loss of instructional time. Any student who arrives at classroom after starting time is considered tardy. Late students must go to the office before going to class.