

**Heninger Elementary School
417 West Walnut Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 953-3800**



2020-2021 Parent Engagement Policy

Heninger Elementary School Staff, with the support of state and federal programs, such as Title I, seeks to engage parents in an effective partnership to provide a high-quality education to our students. This Parent Engagement Policy is reviewed, adopted, and implemented in accordance with guidance from our Board of Education.

This policy was developed with parent input from general parent meetings and is reviewed/updated annually by Heninger's School Site Council. Parent engagement activities are integrated in the school plan for academic accountability.

Parents are equal partners in the education of their children. Therefore, it is the policy of Heninger Elementary School to provide timely information regarding Title I programs, the school's programs and also provide parents timely information about parent's rights and responsibilities, discipline, student progress, school test results, grading practices, and school curriculum through regular communication in both English and Spanish. Also, interpreters for limited-English proficient families will be available, if needed.

Heninger Staff will conduct an annual meeting to inform parents of participating students of the requirements under Title I and their right to be involved. This meeting occurs at the beginning of each academic year and will be publicized as the "Annual Title I Meeting." At this meeting, parents of participating Title I students will be:

- Notified of tentative event dates for the year, including opportunities for parent engagement through participation in School Site Council and the English Learning Advisory Committee
- Provided information about Title I programs
- Given an explanation of the curriculum, assessments, and student expectations
- Notified of how participating students can be involved in the process, planning, review and improvement
- Provided, if requested, with opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decisions relating to their children's education

In addition, regular parent meetings will be held monthly in which information will be distributed that relates to school and parent programs, meetings, other activities to parents of participating students in a format and language in which all parents will understand.

**Heninger Elementary School
417 West Walnut Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 953-3800**

Regular Communication with Parents

In order to build consistent and effective communication between the home and the school, Heninger Staff commits to effective and timely communication with parents in a language that parents understand via the following tools:

- Heninger website: <https://www.sausd.us/heninger>
- ParentSquare
- Social Media:
 - Facebook: @heningerschool
 - Instagram: @heningerallstars
 - Twitter: @HeningerSchool
 - YouTube:
 - Heninger All Stars: <https://www.youtube.com/user/sausdheninger>
 - Heninger Film School: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFxKa70WPq_mr9kvmST8UrQ
- PBIS recognition (attendance, behavior, achievement)
- Report cards
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- School assemblies
- Information regarding program options
- Information regarding students' achievement on state assessments (including ELPAC, SBAC, and MAP)
- School Accountability Report Card: <https://www.sausd.us/Page/40980>
- English Learner parent meetings
- Grade-specific parent meetings
- District Meetings for specific programs (GATE, Special Education)
- Monthly parent meetings (An equal number of morning and evening meetings will be held so that all parents can attend)
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting
- School-Parent Compact
- Aeries Parent Portal
- FACE worker (Carina Valencia)

Parent Training/Support

Our administrators support parent engagement by providing accessibility and opportunities for parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students to develop skills for home use that supports their children's academic efforts & social development. Training provides parents with techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home. A Parent Needs Assessment survey will be conducted annually. Training activities may include:

- School Site Council Training (SSC)
- English Language Advisory Committee Training (ELAC)
- Family literacy

Heninger Elementary School
417 West Walnut Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 953-3800

- Grade level strategies for parents to use with their children and standards information events
- Community resources
- District standards and assessment
- District Training/Annual Parent Conference
- Parenting classes
- Kindergarten Student-Parent Orientation

Homework

Per SAUSD Board Policy, homework is assigned each school night and serves a number of purposes:

- to practice and extend classroom learning, to develop responsibility and work habits
- to provide parents an opportunity to interact with their children and their education by signing homework contracts, reading logs, grade checks, etc.
- teachers reserve the right to assign homework

Parents can support the school and their child's achievement by helping with homework in the following ways:

- Help your child get organized. Remind him/her to take home the necessary materials: binder, pencils, paper, etc.
- Agree upon a regular study time and stick to it.
- See that your child has a suitable study place with good light and no distractions (TV, phone, family noise, etc.)
- Ask to see what your child has done each night and ensure work is returned to the teacher. Show interest in what your child does at school.
- Contact your child's teacher if he/she has difficulty with an assignment. Our goal is to help your child reach and surpass grade level standards.
- Review your child's student agenda/planner, if provided for his/her grade level.
- Encourage your child to read independently.

Citizenship and Student Behavior

Students are to display good citizenship in the cafeteria, on the playground, and in the classroom. Staff and parents should work together to help children understand the meaning and importance of good citizenship and the importance of demonstrating positive character traits. Specific rights, rules and responsibilities regarding student behavior are detailed in the Heninger Elementary Discipline Plan. Each student and parent are provided with a copy at the beginning of each school year. It should be reviewed and signed by both the parent and student. Parents help reinforce high standards of student behavior. Students and parents should understand that we view ourselves as a community and all our interactions ripple through our community.

Parent Visitations

A wonderful way to show your child you are interested in his/her life at school is to visit the classroom, and the school welcomes a parent who wishes to help or observe the

Heninger Elementary School
417 West Walnut Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 953-3800

educational program. Visitation guidelines are communicated to parents at the beginning of each school year.

The following visitation guidelines help minimize disruption of the class:

- Schedule visit with the classroom teacher and school office in advance, if possible.
- Leave younger children at home to lessen distractions, if possible, unless arrangements are made with the teacher.
- All visitors must check-in with the office and wear a visitor's badge on campus.
- When in the classroom, do not engage the teacher in conversation that would prevent her/him from supervising and interacting with the students.
- Before leaving campus, please check-out with the office.

Parent Participation

Parents are urged to participate in one or more school or district committees. These committees meet to plan activities, provide academic program support, discuss concerns, approve program budgets, and to enhance parent understanding and skills. Without parent participation, our students would not be as successful.

Parents may join events at the dates and times announced. Notices about events are communicated to parents regularly in both English and Spanish.

Parents who wish to volunteer may arrange to do so with their child's teacher or the office. Parents are encouraged to volunteer at least 1 hour per year. Opportunities for parent participation include:

- School Site Council (SSC): Reviews, modifies, and approves the School Plan for Student Achievement including budgets. Determines school improvement goals, prioritizes budget expenditures for some categorical programs and monitors progress toward meeting the goals.
- English Language Learner Advisory Council (ELAC): Advises SSC about the program that serves English Learners at Heninger. The district DELAC helps set district English Learner program goals and plans for the spending of extra funding provided by the state for this purpose.
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO): Plans student activities and raises funds for the additional needs at Heninger.
- Award assemblies
- Back-to-School Night
- Open House
- Chaperone field trips
- Volunteer at Heninger or complete tasks at home to support the school/teachers
- Parent education opportunities
- Be a room parent
- Provide materials/supplies for special events
- Report card training