

*Francis H. Cortney Junior High School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2022-2023 Academic School Year*

This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by Francis H. Cortney Junior High School and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title I.

Cortney Jr. High School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time for parents, to evaluate this policy, review the school's Title I funds, and explain the rights and responsibilities of students and parents. This meeting will be held September 7, 2022, via Google Meets. Information from this meeting is posted on the school's website. The school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, developed by the administration, the Learning Strategist/Title 1 Coordinator, parents, and staff members, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. This policy will be made available to the community and posted on the school website.

Results of the District-Wide Parent Survey will be shared at the Title 1 Annual Parent Meeting in September. Results will also be available on the Cortney JHS website. Results from the latest district survey show a decrease in the number of parents that agree "My child's school sets clear rules for behavior." from 76.12% (2022) from 80.00% (2020) and 94.29% (2021). The results also show that 86.5% of parents feel welcome at their child's school. CJHS will strive to improve rules for behavior and safety while students are on campus. The implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) began at the start of the school year along with the introduction of academic Houses to help build and foster a respectful school community. The supervision schedule at CJHS includes teachers, administration, hall monitors, and counselors to be present in the hallways and the quad area during passing periods and before/after school. There are 16 supervising stations in the morning and 9 supervising stations after school to remind students to follow school rules and use their best behaviors. During lunches the counselors, administration team and hall monitors supervise the cafeteria. Teachers are required to be in the hallway at all passing periods. We will make consistent Parentlink calls, emails, and texts to parents and students about the District-wide survey. Additionally, we will post the link on our updated website for all students, teachers, and parents to see. The ParentLink messages encourage parents to get involved and go online to complete the CCSD Parent survey.

Cortney Jr. High School will involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I programs, Continuous Improvement Plan, and Parent and Family Engagement Policy. In order to achieve parent involvement, we will proactively and consistently contact parents utilizing ParentLink calls, emails and text messages. The school website will inform and invite parents to in person and virtual meetings where school plans will be discussed. A 'child-friendly' area will be available for families to bring their children, when needed.

The Educational Involvement Accord is integrated into the online registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents/Guardians must review the Accord prior to completing their child's online registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accord whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions.

The administration and staff will provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the State's proficiency level targets, and the school's curriculum. CJHS uses MapNWEA, HMH Reading Inventory, Mathia, MAP Accelerator, APEX and Amplify to monitor student progress, growth, and proficiency levels. SBAC, WIDA, MAPs, and growth with individual Lexile levels of students are assessed annually and used to determine goals on the Continuous Improvement Plan. Assistance will be provided to parents, as appropriate, on how to monitor their student's academic progress, and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of the student.

Cortney Jr. High School hosts a "Jump Start to Education Open House" event before school starts in August where parents and community members meet the staff, pay fees, and learn how to become a volunteer at Cortney Jr. High School. Due to Covid restrictions this event will count as our Open House. Parents are encouraged to use the Infinite Campus Parent Portal system to help support their child in learning. Infinite Campus Parent Portal is an electronic site for parents to track and record grades, report cards, attendance, tardies and student behaviors. A computer is available for parents to use in the library or registration area.

A school-wide Community Night Event will be scheduled in the spring. At this event parents will interact with activities to establish a home environment that supports education. Literature for parents will be available to help parents create a partnership with the school, teachers, and their child. Parents and students will be invited to participate in the activities offered. Services such as the Library District and the CCSD FACES department will be invited to provide information about community services for families regarding parenting classes, tutoring services and other community services in the immediate area.

With regard to professional development, the administration of Cortney Jr. High School will educate the staff on:

- *The value and utility of contributions of parents*
- *Building ties between parents and the school*
- *How to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners*
-remove virtual
- *Implementing and coordinating parent programs*

Professional development for teachers and staff is built into the school year contract. Some of these professional development weekly PLC meetings will be devoted to teaching all staff strategies to communicate with stakeholders.

The school will continue a partnership with Serving Our Kids / Three Square to provide weekend food bags for identified Title 1 and other students and families in need. Cortney JHS will also work with School Bell to offer assistance to students in need of clothing. Parents in need of resources for their child(ren) can get help through our counseling office. Green Valley Presbyterian Church and Central Christian Church donate school supplies for CJHS students in need of assistance with materials. The FACES Department of CCSD provides information on parenting to build community within the Cortney JHS community. Information is shared at Community Nights and posted on bulletin boards in the Behavior and Registrar's Office as well as on the Cortney Junior High School Website.

Cortney Jr. High School will ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Most parent events have a bilingual translator available to help with communication of the information being presented whether in person or virtual.

Positive, ongoing communication is the key to success with any program. Cortney Jr. High School will continue to provide reasonable virtual and in person support for parental involvement activities as parents may request, to ensure a successful school year.

