

HELEN J. STEWART SCHOOL

Embraces the vision that all students can develop the skills necessary to become participating members of their communities.

Palmer Jackson, Principal

Richard Fuller, Assistant Principal

Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2021-2022

This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the Helen J. Stewart staff and the parents/guardians of students served in pursuant to Title I.

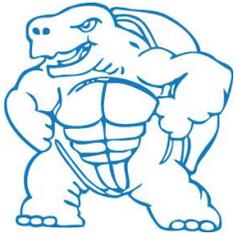
Helen J. Stewart (HJS) is a special school in the Clark County School District (CCSD) that serves students with significant intellectual disabilities. Most of the students have secondary disabilities that include autism, health impairments, deafness, blindness, and physical disabilities.

Helen J. Stewart School will convene an annual Title I fall meeting at a convenient time for parents/guardians to evaluate this policy. On August 11, 2021. An additional meetings will be held on August 12, 2020 in order to accommodate parents' schedules. The school's parent involvement policy, developed by the parents/guardians, group home staff, teachers, and administrators, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent possible, in a language parents can understand. The parent involvement policy will also be made available to the community, through the school's website and newsletter. Meetings will be held virtually and in person. Parents that were unable to attend meetings can review the Title I information on the website.

The results from the Districtwide Survey indicated data were not presented for HJS as the groups were less than ten. The data was suppressed due to FERPA regulations. We learned that we need to continue working towards getting greater parent participation by sending out Parentlink reminders with a link to the survey.

HJS will involve parents/guardians in an organized, ongoing, and timely way to plan, review, and improve the Title I program, School Performance Plan, and Parent Involvement Policy. Parents will have ongoing opportunities to provide input, develop action steps, and review school-wide plans. Parents are involved during SOT meetings, parent workshops, in virtual teacher conferences, and virtual welcome back meetings, and in person.

The Educational Involvement Accords are integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents/Guardians must review Accords prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers have access to the Accords when needed for parent conferences, Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings, or other parent/school occasions. Administration also includes the Accords into staff communication to ensure each student is afforded high-quality instruction as well as families receiving frequent reports not only on achievement, but behaviors and daily living skill improvement.



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Administration and staff will:

1. Provide assistance to parents/guardians and group home staff, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the student's Individual Education Program (IEP), state academic content and achievement standards, assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with school staff to improve the individual achievement level of their child/client.
2. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet their IEP goals/benchmarks as well as the task-analyzed state academic standards.
3. Offer parent involvement activities in the school that will include:
 - a. Parent education classes
 - b. Strategies for parents to provide home support for their child's education
 - c. Opportunities for parents to participate in school decision-making
 - d. Effective communication between the school and parents/guardians

Family plays a primary role in a child's education and HJS respects and honors traditions and activities unique to our cultural practices and beliefs. With regard to professional development, the administration, with assistance from parents, will educate teachers and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; as well as implement and coordinate ongoing parent programs.

Communication with parents will include a variety of formats but will not be limited to home notebooks, pictured reflection sheets, telephone calls, texts, emails, flyers, conferences, IEP meetings, the school website, ParentLink messages, as well as Infinite Campus. Efforts will be made to accommodate parents whom may need a translator by contacting the FACES department.

The school and parents will cultivate relationships with additional members of the community such as our daily work sites and our community donor in order to promote and effectively increase educational opportunities for children. Together, parents, educators, and community members will join efforts toward identifying and promoting community resources and innovative programs for strengthening Helen J. Stewart School, families, and student achievement.

Other supports for family engagement activities are available to parents upon request by contacting the administration.