

VINA DANKS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Policy for Parent Involvement

Vina Danks Middle School recognizes that an important part of effective schooling is the partnership between the school and the parents. The school provides the instructional program and the parents provide the support that enables each student to meet the academic expectations set forth by the California academic standards. This shared responsibility has a significant impact on student achievement and conduct.

The development of the parent involvement policy shall be a collaborative effort between Vina Danks Middle School staff and parents, reviewed and updated annually by the parent and School Site Council, and incorporated into the schools action plan. Its purpose shall be to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between Vina Danks Middle School and parents that will improve student achievement and conduct.

Building Parent Involvement

Vina Danks Middle School engages parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents and the community to improve student achievement. To ensure an effective partnership between the school and our parents, and to support our efforts to reach these goals, Vina Danks Middle School shall:

1. Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title I, Section 1118, and their right to be involved in the Title I Program. To address the requirements, Vina Danks administrative staff shall provide parents with information on a variety of topics that include but shall not be limited to:
 - Description of the Title I School-wide Program
 - Title I Budget (District allocation of funds and site budget)
 - Present Single Plan for Student Achievement Goals
 - Highly-Qualified Teachers

- Monitoring student academic progress through interpreting state and local assessment reports and student progress reports
- School-Parent Compact
- Uniform Complaint Procedure
- Parent training on family and education related topics
- Effective use of support programs and services
- Classroom activities and school events
- Parent involvement opportunities
- Curriculum and instructional practices

All parents shall be invited to attend the annual Title I meeting, held annually at flexible times during the day, to receive information about Title I program participants and program implementation. Parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of programs, including the parent involvement policy and school plan. Parents shall be invited to attend a number of meetings scheduled throughout the school year via written notice and/or by phone provided at times that are convenient to parents.

2. Train school staff about parent rights as specified in California statutes and in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title I, Part A, and in the use of parent involvement strategies to:
 - Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, workshops, and other activities offered by Vina Danks Middle School's support programs, is sent in a parent-friendly format in the parents' primary language.
 - Implement and coordinate parent activities/workshops/meetings through Vina Danks Middle School's support programs that build ties between parents and the school, such as opportunities to support the school through their participation in volunteer committees, Site English Language Parent Advisory Committee (SELPAC) and School Site Council.

3. Provide additional support for parent involvement including:

- Providing leadership training in order to enable parents to serve effectively as members of leadership committees, advisory committees, and School Site Council.
- Forming alliances with community-based agencies and businesses to connect families, in need of assistance, with appropriate services.
- Continue to provide support and encouragement through the “Coffee with the Principal”, Parent workshops, and SELPAC workshops to increase parental involvement.
- Adopt a model parent volunteer and involvement program.

Shared Responsibilities

An annual School/Student/Parent Compact explains how parents, students, and Vina Danks’ staff will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and behavior. The school staff and parents shall collaborate on the development of the compact. The compact shall be reviewed annually at the Title 1 School-wide meeting and modified as needed. The compact shall:

- Describe how the school staff will be responsible for providing a high-quality instructional program that enables all students to meet the California academic standards, and for providing a safe, nurturing learning environment for all students.
- Explain how the student will be responsible for conduct that contributes to a safe learning environment, and their own progress and academic achievement.
- Explain how parents will be responsible for supporting their child’s learning by monitoring attendance and homework completion, teaching appropriate behavior, being well informed of school activities, and actively participating in decisions relating to their child’s education.

The responsibilities of each party will be discussed at Back-to-School Night, Open House, Parent/Teacher conferences, and any other orientation meetings held.

Accessibility

Vina Danks Middle School, to the extent practical, shall provide parents with limited English proficiency opportunities to fully participate in school-sponsored activities by using translation at all meetings and workshops and by sending written notices and reports in a language that parents understand. The following workshops are facilitated to accommodate the majority of Vina Danks Middle School parents:

- “Coffee with the Principal” (quarterly)/Parent Informational Workshops (bi-monthly)
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Parent Informational Meetings
- Parent Square Training
- Reclassification/English Learner Information Parent Meeting
- SELPAC Meetings
- SSC Meetings