

TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Background

All Local Education Agencies (LEA) receiving Title I funds are required under Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 U.S.C. § 6318, (ESSA) to develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the LEA. The ESSA states that the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy must be jointly developed with parents and family members, incorporated into the LEA plan (Consolidated Application and Plan), and distributed to parents of participating children in a format and language that parents can understand. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

Objective

The Mt. Lebanon School District recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by parents, families, schools and the community. Creating positive home, school and community partnerships is essential to carrying out this shared responsibility. It is the objective of this policy to set forth the expectations for parental and family engagement, the commitment of the District to such engagement, and the specific implementation standards of how such parental and family engagement under Title I will be achieved.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of School Directors that:

1. Through the involvement of a District Title I Parent Advisory Committee and yearly needs assessment survey, the District will involve parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Consolidated Application and Plan. Each year the District Title I Parent and Family Advisory Committee will review this policy and other related documents to ensure their viability as well as make suggestions for improvement.
2. The District will involve parents and family members in the development of support and improvement plans under paragraph (1) and (2) of 20 U.S.C. § 6311(d).
3. The District will engage with parents and families in the process of reviewing the components of the Title I program and data on achievement and improvement at the school and district level through the Parent and Family Advisory Committee, annual meeting and survey.
4. The District will provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance including parent/teacher conferences, training and workshops, and informational materials through professional development,

administrative support and consultation. The District may also provide meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.

5. The District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other Federal, State and local laws and programs.
6. The District will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving academic quality of the schools served under this policy. Such evaluation will include identification of:
 - Barriers to greater participation by parents, particularly those parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, of limited English proficiency or literacy, or of any racial or ethnic minority background.
 - Needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
 - Strategies to support successful school and family interactions
7. The District will use the findings of the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, this policy.
8. The District will develop strategies for involving parents and family members in school level activities, through school level advisory committees comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members to adequately represent the needs of the school population. These activities will include workshops and training, conferences, and the development of a school-parent compact.

Administration Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the administration to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy and otherwise comply with the ESSA.

Communication

This policy shall be communicated to all school district personnel, parents, guardians, PTAs, and the general public on an annual basis through newsletters, open houses, and through other communications sent home to parents.

Adopted August 19, 2002
Reviewed December 7, 2010
Reviewed, October 7, 2015
Revised, June 18, 2018