



**YES Prep Northwest**  
**School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
**ESSA Section 1116**  
**2020 - 2021**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, YES Prep Northwest receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

**YES Prep Northwest**

agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- ❑ Involve families, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- ❑ Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of families and the school, distribute it to the families of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- ❑ Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language families understand.
- ❑ If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- ❑ Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition: Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
  - (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - (C) families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
  - (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

*Description of how the school will implement required school parent and family engagement policy components:*

YES Prep Northwest will take the following actions to involve families in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by families, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

During scheduled parent engagement meetings throughout the school year, YES Prep Northwest families will have the opportunity to offer feedback to the YES Prep Northwest student and family handbook. Upon receipt of the parental feedback, YES Prep Northwest administration will post a revised copy of the handbook.

YES Prep Northwest will also host meetings throughout the school year to solicit feedback on campus policies, goals, and initiatives. Families will be invited to attend and share feedback they have for teachers and administrators.

YES Prep Northwest will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all families of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the families' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

On Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup>, YES Prep Northwest will host its first annual Title I meetings. This time will be used to inform families of the Title I requirements for participation in the program as well as review the families' rights to be involved. During the annual Title I meeting, families will be asked to give input and we will ensure families have access to the family policy and compact. There will also be time for families to ask questions and gain clarity on the Title I program.

YES Prep Northwest will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- ❑ Timely information about the Title I programs
- ❑ Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- ❑ Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:

The YES Prep Northwest student and family handbook will be made available to all families by the second week of school each school year. The handbook will be posted on our campus website. A virtual Family Resource Center will also be linked to give families access to critical information.

YES Prep Northwest will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

During family engagement and campus meetings, families will have the opportunity to review the school-parent compact and offer feedback for revisions. After the campus makes revisions, the updated version will be posted on the YES Prep Northwest campus website.

YES Prep Northwest will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

YES Prep Northwest will partner with Crime Stoppers, Houston Food Bank, and local food banks to provide educational classes to students and identify opportunities for students to participate in service activities in their community.

YES Prep Northwest will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

Over the course of the year, YES Prep Northwest teachers will participate in professional development aligned to campus goals and students' socio-emotional needs. Teachers will also participate in district-wide trainings regarding literacy, numeracy, data analysis, and parental engagement.

YES Prep Northwest will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:

YES Prep Northwest will host a summer family academy. During this program, parents will learn research-based strategies that will develop students academically, socially, and emotionally as they transition to a new grade level at YES Prep Northwest.