

SUBJECT: PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FUNDED BY TITLE I – PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

As a district that receives Title 1, Part A funds and in support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls Union Free School District (HCKS UFSD), in compliance with the New York State Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), has established a district policy in accordance with Section 1116(a)(2) of that Act.

The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD's *Parent & Family Engagement Policy* is invested in collaborating with residential staff of the Jewish Board of Family & Children Services (JBFCS), parents and families to strengthen all our students' academic achievement, social and emotional growth and overall development.

"Parent and family engagement" is defined as the participation of parents and families involved in regular, meaningful communication involving academic learning, including the assurances that:

- JBFCS residential staff, parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning and development
- JBFCS residential staff, parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education
- JBFCS residential staff parents and families are included, when appropriate, on advisory and decision-making committees to assist in the education of their children

The HCKS UFSD Board of Education policy establishes expectations for residential staff, parent and family engagement and describes how schools will implement specific engagement activities. This policy will be made available to parents and residential community members and be updated periodically.

HCKS UFSD and the school buildings within the district that currently qualify for ESSA-funded programs will in accordance with ESSA Section 1116(a)(2) the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls district's Parent and Family Engagement Policy ensure that the policy is posted and distributed for all JBFCS residential staff, parents and family members to have access to view. The policy will be available to residential and parents as well as HCKS UFSD staff members via:

- Posted on the district website
- Sent home in mail
- Provided in newsletters
- Provided as part of our intake packet
- Part of our opening day orientation for staff

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Additionally, HCKS UFSD will:

- Host an annual meeting and invite JBFCS staff and parents/guardians of participating students to attend this informational meeting about the school's programs tied to ESSA funding. The schools will involve parents when determining meeting dates and will offer a flexible number of meetings to be held at convenient times and places for families. The school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan and dates for meetings will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year and be posted to the school's website
- Provide timely information about ESSA-funded programs to JBFCS staff, parents/ guardians of participating students and make available to parents/ guardians, family members, and/or other stakeholders (JBFCS staff) information about filing a complaint with New York State or HCKS regarding ESSA-funded programs

Furthermore, HCKS UFSD's staff and JBFCS agency staff will collaborate to develop and implement district improvement plans as it relates to communication, safety and security and school programs to foster educational, social and emotional growth of our students.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD's Parent and Family Engagement Policy will foster communication, engagement and collaboration between the school and agency/residential staff, parents/guardians and families. Parents will be invited to attend:

- Case Manager Meetings
- Open Houses
- Extra- curricular activities: Sporting Events, Class Trips, etc.

The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD, in communication with JBFCS staff, parents/ guardians and families will touch on important topics such as:

- NYSED Academic Standards
- NYS Assessments
- Progress monitoring
- Student IEPs and meetings
- Interventions and supports

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Instruction

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Lastly, HCKS UFSD will provide guidance to parents and families to assist them with improving achievement in areas such as literacy, mathematics and technology. And, work with the agency, parents and families, local districts and clinical and community supports that can build ties between all parties invested supporting the academic, social, emotional and behavioral needs of our students. HCKS UFSD will also ensure equivalence among schools of the same grade span and levels of instruction regarding staff, curriculum materials and instructional supplies in ESSA-funded programs.

Adoption Date 1/14/2020