



Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

As authorized under ESEA, as amended

2021-2022

Revision Date: 10/5/2021

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Overview

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Kuspuk School District** 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)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. The policy establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The **Kuspuk School District** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in Section 1116 of the ESEA, as amended:

- Involve parents, 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 schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. [§1116(c)(3)]
- Update the school parent and family member policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents and family members of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community. [§1116(b)(1)]
- In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA, as amended, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. [§1116(e)(4)]
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA, as amended, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the district. [§1116(c)(5)]
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
 - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - that parents 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
 - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116. [§8101(39)]

Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

Joint Development

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, 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.

(Describe/List how parents and family members will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement policy and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parental involvement programs.

-Parents and family members will be involved in the development of the district ESEA Consolidated Application through several methods. Advisory is gathered primarily through the School Advisory Committee (SAC). Each school and principal seeks members for their SAC and seeks to hold monthly meetings.

An annual district-wide parent/guardian meeting is held (via webinar and audioconference) to inform parents of their rights and give a platform for parents to communicate needs.

INSERT ALL OPEN HOUSES, FAMILY NIGHTS, ORIENTATIONS

Discuss involvement procedures at Open House and other relevant family nights

Asking for revisions via website/newsletter/Title I meetings

Plan available to the community via website posting

The review and development of the School Improvement Plans are conducted on "As Needed" basis. The SAC and school administration reviews the School Improvement plan together. Local and state assessment data is analyzed and evaluated with the data from the most current needs assessments. The school administration takes into consideration input from the SAC, survey results and state/local assessment results and writes/edits the School Improvement Plan. The newest copy of the school improvement plan is disseminated to all stakeholders.

Annual Title I, Part A Meeting

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I, Part A program, the nature of the Title I, Part A program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

(Describe/List when the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved.

The district-wide annual meeting was held on May 6, 2021. Parents and families may attend either in person, via conference call or through an online webinar.

Communications

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about Title I, Part A 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 parental involvement.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
- If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- Information related to the school and parent and family member programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

(Describe/List how the parent and family engagement policy will be distributed to parents and family members and how the school is going to communicate with parents and family members including information about how the school will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.)

Kuspuk School District holds a district-wide annual title I meeting each year during the Spring. Parents and family members are invited and feedback is requested. The title I plan and its requirements are explained at the meeting. Parents are also informed of their right to be involved in the development and revision of the Title I plan.

Kuspuk School District will make every effort to be flexible when scheduling meetings, and all of them will also be broadcast through ZOOM, for those who are unable to attend in person. Through past surveys KSD has been informed that parents, family members, and community members prefer to have a call in number for ZOOM meetings. Therefore, a call-in number is always published with the meeting agenda.

Our Compact is introduced during the 1st quarter parent-teacher conferences. The compact explains the ways the school staff, parents, and students work together to increase student achievement. Parent input and feedback is sought. A final copy has been uploaded to the district/school website.

Input from parents and families is welcome at meetings, in writing, and through emails to the school principal. Evaluations/feedback are also available at all Title I events and parents suggestions are collected at that time.

School-Parent Compact

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

(Describe/List the process the school will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.)

Kuspuk School District teachers and administrators previously developed the school-parent compacts jointly with parents. During the 2021-2022 school year, a committee of teachers, administrators, and parents met to review and revise the compacts. Administrators shared the areas they historically found to be most important to parents during parent teacher meetings. Parents on the committee agreed. Therefore, the compacts were updated to accurately reflect the needs and desires of the school and parents when working together. Each school year, compacts will be made available electronically and in paper form during the 1st quarter parent-teacher conferences. During these meetings the school staff will review the compacts with the parents, families, and students. Each party will sign indicating they are in agreement and the originals will be stored at the school office. Comments, suggestions, and feedback is solicited during and after the meetings and used to inform future practices.

Reservation of Funds

The **Kuspuk School District** will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent. *(Only applicable to districts with an allocation of \$500,000 or more.)*

- Funds reserved under this section by the district agency shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than 1 of the following:
 - (i) Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for local educational agency and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members.
 - (ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
 - (iii) Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
 - (iv) Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
 - (v) Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the local educational agency determines are appropriate and consistent with such agency's parent and family engagement policy.

Not applicable

Coordination

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

(Describe/List how the school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other relevant programs, organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.)

Kuspuk School District is committed to providing a quality education for every child. To this end, we hope to establish partnerships with parents within the community. KSD will coordinate and intergrate parent and family engagement strategies with other relevant programs, organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide supports and resources to families. Each month, our school conducts a family literacy night activity with a different theme. During these activities, students and families are provided with reading materials and activities. It is an opportunity for families to enjoy some time together, discuss the month's theme, and a chance to win prizes. FLN activities are promoted at each school through Facebook, flyers, website, and phone calls.

Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents and family members with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Providing parents and family members materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the following:
 - The challenging State academic standards.
 - The State and local academic assessments.
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - How to monitor a child's progress.
 - How work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

(Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents and family member in helping their student's academic success.)

-Conducting parent/teacher conferences

-Reviewing individual student achievement

-Providing frequent reports to parents on their student's progress

-Providing parents with reasonable access to staff

-Providing parents with regular meetings to make suggestions and participate in decisions relating to the education of their student

Building Capacity of School Staff

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

(Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.)

All staff are trained on, and expected to provide clear, consistent, and timely communication with families via websites, email, and direct communication.

Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request.

(Describe/List actions the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.)

In an effort to provide support for parental involvement, the school will review and adjust our family activities based on feedback received at each event. During the COVID pandemic, a virtual/remote option will be made available to encourage participation. The school communicated these events through many sources to increase turn out and give parents an opportunity to reach out with suggestions or concerns.

Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional

NOTE TO THE SCHOOL: The school parent and family engagement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA, as amended:

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each Title I, Part A school—

- may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section; and
- may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

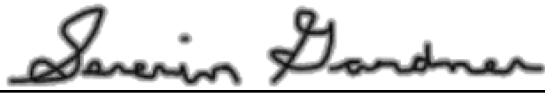
(Describe how each discretionary items checked above will be implemented.)

Adoption

This school parent and family member engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by incorporating input from various stakeholders during the 2021 Grants Planning meeting and parents and family engagement surveys.

This policy was adopted by the **Joseph & Olinga Gregory Elementary School** on **October 8, 2021** and will be in effect for the period of **2021-2022**. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **November 1, 2022**.

Printed Name of Principal: Severin Gardner

Signature of Principal: 

Date: 10/8/2021