

TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

MARTIN MEYLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Purpose

The Board recognizes that meaningful parent and family engagement contributes to the achievement of state academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. This policy, developed by Martin Meylin Middle School in collaboration with and agreed to by parents and family members, describes how parents and family members will be engaged at the school level.

Components

The school complies with federal law related to the engagement of parents and family members by detailing how the school will:

1. Involve parents and family members in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy:
 - By providing parents with opportunities to develop and/or review the Lampeter-Strasburg School District Parent Involvement Plan and offer suggestions and comments.
2. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time:
 - To which all parents and family members of participating children shall be invited, and encouraged to attend;
 - To inform parents and family members of their school's participation as a Title I school.
 - To explain the requirements and the rights of parents and family members to be involved.
 - To review parent involvement policies and elicit feedback.
 - To involve parents "in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner," in planning, review, and improvement of the Title I programs.
3. Offer a flexible number of meetings in the morning and/or the evening, and may provide Title I funds, if sufficient, to facilitate parent and family member attendance at meetings through payment of transportation, child care costs and/or refreshments.
 - A flexible number of meetings will be held to meet parents' schedules.
4. Involve parents and family members, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent and family engagement program:
 - Meetings will be held twice each school year to elicit feedback from parents related to programming, budget, and parent involvement activities.
 - Parents will be provided the opportunity to give feedback through an annual Title I Parent Survey.
5. Provide parents and family members of participating children with timely information about the Title I program:

- Parents will be notified in a timely manner if their child is identified for Title I Reading services. Communication includes notification of the school's annual fall Title I parent meeting.
6. Provide parents and family members of participating children 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 achievement levels of the state academic standards:
 - This will be achieved through a report card grades, Title I progress reports, and conferences.
 7. Provide, if requested by parents and family members, 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:
 - Martin Meylin Middle School will provide, if requested, parent-teacher conferences, academic student support meetings (as needed), and regular home-school communication.
 8. Involve parents and family members in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan in accordance with federal law. [Note: applies only to Title I schools operating a Schoolwide Program]:
 - Martin Meylin Middle School does not operate a Schoolwide Program.
 9. Create a school-parent and family compact developed jointly with parents and family members outlining how parents and family members, the entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and the parents and family members will build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the state's academic standards. The compact shall:
 - Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children in Title I programs to meet the state academic standards, and the ways in which parents and family members will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in their child's classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
 - Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents and family members on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
 - Reading assistant conferences with parents and family members offered at least annually, during which the compact may be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement;
 - Progress reports to parents and family members;
 - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities;
 - Regular two-way, meaningful communication between parents and family members and school staff, in a language that parents and family members can understand.
 - Be reviewed at the spring Title I parent meeting and distributed in the fall or when students enter the Title I program.

10. Provide assistance to parents and family members in understanding the state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children:
 - This will be accomplished through the report card grades, Title I progress reports, and Title 1 Parent Involvement nights.

11. Provide materials and training to help parents and family members 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 parent and family involvement:
 - The Lampeter-Strasburg School District will offer at least one parent workshop each year to provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve their children's achievement. The topic of each parent workshop will be chosen from suggestions offered at the fall parent meeting. In addition, parents will be invited to the annual IU13 Title 1 Parent Conference.
 - The district will inform parents of resource materials. The Martin Meylin Middle School Parent Resource Center is located in the Office.

12. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents and family members, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and family members, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and family members and the school:
 - Martin Meylin Middle School will implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and family members and school. Parent input will be a part of the agendas for Title I parent meetings.

13. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate, and integrate parent and family member involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children:
 - This will be accomplished through the district's kindergarten transition activities, such as story hour and preschool morning out.

14. Ensure that information related to school and parent and family member programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in a format and in a language the parents and family members can understand:
 - The Title I program will utilize various interpreting services to meet this requirement. Documents will be translated into appropriate languages based on parents' needs and/or interpreters will be secured for group meetings and individual parent correspondences.

15. 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):
 - Title I families will receive invitations to all Title I parent and family engagement events and all Title I communication through paper copies, phone calls, and/or email, in a language they understand.

16. Ensure distribution of the policy to all parents and family members with a child participating in a Title I program by the following means:
 - The Martin Meylin Middle School Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be reviewed with all parents at the fall Title I Parent Meeting. Copies will be provided to all Title I parents, posted on the District Website, and attached to the District's Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall notify parents and family members of the existence of Title I programs and provide:

1. An explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
2. A set of goals and objectives to be addressed.
3. A description of the services to be provided.
4. A copy of this policy and the School-Parent and Family Compact.

Each school with a Title I program shall provide communications, information and school reports to parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, in a language and format they can understand.