

## LEA PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Harding Independence Charter 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(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes Harding Independence Charter District's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement activities.

Harding Independence Charter District is committed to creating and promoting a "Great Culture" by partnering with families, communities, and the schools to support the academic success of all children by strengthening the engagement of families. Programs and practices will be established to meet the diverse needs, languages, and cultures of children and families. Harding Independence Charter District recognizes the word "parent" also includes guardians and other family members that engaged in the child's educational process.

Harding Independence Charter District will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children. Consistent with Section 1116, the district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, Harding Independence Charter District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, 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 parents understand.

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

1. Parents participate in assisting their child's learning
2. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
3. Parents are 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
4. Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.

Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Conduct with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under the part, including identifying;

1. Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
2. The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and o
3. Strategies so support successful school and family interactions

Use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies Section 1116(a)(2).

Harding Independence Charter District promotes and supports developing lasting partnerships with families, communities, and businesses to build capacity for practices and activities that nurture student success. Which strengthens the families' access to resources; businesses/community organizations partner with schools to create programs that connect to the workplace; intergenerational programs support young and old working together; and students serve and learn beyond their school environment.

Harding Independence Charter District recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parent involvement. They are committed to providing professional development opportunities and training for parents and staff throughout the year to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies.

Approved: October 2019

REFERENCE: Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).