

## 1642.01 SICK LEAVE

The Board of Education shall grant sick leave in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-2. All persons holding any office, position, or employment in the school district, who are steadily employed by the Board or who are protected by tenure in their office, position, or employment under the provisions of this or any other law, except persons in the classified service of the civil service under Title 11, Civil Service, of the Revised Statutes shall be allowed sick leave in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-2.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a., sick leave is defined as the absence from an employee's post of duty, for any of the following reasons:

1. The employee is personally ill or injured;
2. For diagnosis, care, or treatment of, or recovery from, an employee's mental or physical illness, injury or other adverse health condition, or for preventive medical care for the employee;
3. For the employee to aid or care for a family member of the employee during diagnosis, care, or treatment of, or recovery from, the family member's mental or physical illness, injury or other adverse health condition, or during preventive medical care for the family member;
4. Absence necessary due to circumstances resulting from the employee, or a family member of the employee, being a victim of domestic or sexual violence, if the leave is to allow the employee to obtain for the employee or the family member:
  - a. Medical attention needed to recover from physical or psychological injury or disability caused by domestic or sexual violence;
  - b. Services from a designated domestic violence agency or other victim services organization;



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- c. Psychological or other counseling;
  - d. Relocation; or
  - e. Legal services, including obtaining a restraining order or preparing for, or participating in, any civil or criminal legal proceeding related to the domestic or sexual violence;
- 5. The death of a family member for up to seven days;
  - 6. To attend a child's school-related conference, meeting, function or other event requested or required by a school administrator, teacher, or other professional staff member responsible for the child's education, or to attend a meeting regarding care provided to the child in connection with the child's health conditions or disability;
  - 7. The school or place of care of a child of the employee is closed by order of a public official or because of a state of emergency declared by the Governor due to an epidemic or other public health emergency;
  - 8. The employee has been exposed to a contagious disease or is quarantined for the disease in the employee's immediate household.

N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1, this Policy, and Regulation 1642.01 shall not supersede any law providing collective bargaining rights for school district employees, and shall not reduce, diminish, or adversely affect an employee's collective bargaining rights pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.b.

The Board reserves the right to require of any employee who claims sick leave sufficient proof in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-4 and Section C. of Regulation 1642.01.



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The Superintendent or designee will prepare rules for the administration of N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1, N.J.S.A. 18A:30-4, this Policy, and Regulation 1642.01, which shall be binding on all employees.

The Superintendent or designee will submit to the Board the names of those employees absent for non-compensable cause or whose claim for sick leave pay cannot be justified. The willful misuse of sick leave may be subject to discipline.

29 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.  
N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1; 18A:30-2; 18A:30-4

Adopted: 29 August 2023



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### A. Definitions – N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.c. and 18A:30-4.i.

1. “Certified Domestic Violence Specialist” means a person who has fulfilled the requirements of certification as a Domestic Violence Specialist established by the New Jersey Association of Domestic Violence Professionals.
2. “Child” means a biological, adopted or foster child, stepchild or legal ward of an employee, child of a domestic partner or civil union partner of the employee.
3. “Designated domestic violence agency” means a county-wide organization whose primary purpose is to provide services to victims of domestic violence and which provides services that conform to the core domestic violence services profile as defined by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in the Department of Children and Families and is under contract with the division for the express purpose of providing the services.
4. “Domestic or sexual violence” means stalking, any sexually violent offense, as defined in N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.26, or domestic violence as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:25-19 and N.J.S.A. 17:29B-16.
5. “Family member” means a child, grandchild, sibling, spouse, domestic partner, civil union partner, parent, or grandparent of an employee, or a spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner of a parent or grandparent of the employee, or a sibling of a spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner of the employee, or any other individual related by blood to the employee or whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship.
6. “Health care professional” means any person licensed under Federal, State, or local law or the laws of a foreign nation, to provide health care services, or any other person who has been authorized to provide health care by a licensed health care professional including, but not limited to, doctors, nurses, and emergency room personnel.



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7. “Supervisor” means the building or district administrative staff member designated by the Superintendent who is responsible for supervising the employee.
- B. Eligibility for Sick Leave – N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1
1. Sick leave is defined as the absence from an employee's post of duty, for any of the following reasons:
    - a. The employee is personally ill or injured;
    - b. For diagnosis, care, or treatment of, or recovery from, an employee’s mental or physical illness, injury or other adverse health condition, or for preventive medical care for the employee;
    - c. For the employee to aid or care for a family member of the employee during diagnosis, care, or treatment of, or recovery from, the family member's mental or physical illness, injury or other adverse health condition, or during preventive medical care for the family member;
    - d. Absence necessary due to circumstances resulting from the employee, or a family member of the employee, being a victim of domestic or sexual violence, if the leave is to allow the employee to obtain for the employee or the family member:
      - (1) Medical attention needed to recover from physical or psychological injury or disability caused by domestic or sexual violence;
      - (2) Services from a designated domestic violence agency or other victim services organization;
      - (3) Psychological or other counseling;
      - (4) Relocation; or



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- (5) Legal services, including obtaining a restraining order or preparing for, or participating in, any civil or criminal legal proceeding related to the domestic or sexual violence;
    - e. The death of a family member for up to seven days;
    - f. To attend a child's school-related conference, meeting, function or other event requested or required by a school administrator, teacher, or other professional staff member responsible for the child's education, or to attend a meeting regarding care provided to the child in connection with the child's health conditions or disability;
    - g. The school or place of care of a child of the employee is closed by order of a public official or because of a state of emergency declared by the Governor, due to an epidemic or other public health emergency; or
    - h. The employee has been exposed to a contagious disease or is quarantined for the disease in the employee's immediate household.
  2. N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1, Policy 1642.01, and this Regulation shall not supersede any law providing collective bargaining rights for school district employees and shall not reduce, diminish, or adversely affect an employee's collective bargaining rights.
- C. Physician's Certificate Required for Sick Leave – N.J.S.A. 18A:30-4
1. In case of sick leave claimed due to personal illness or injury, the Board of Education may require a physician's certificate to be filed with the Secretary of the Board in order to obtain sick leave.



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2. If an employee's need to use sick leave as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1 and B. above is foreseeable, the Board requires advance notice, not to exceed seven calendar days, as determined by the Superintendent, prior to the date the leave is to begin, of the intention to use the leave and its expected duration, and the employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the use of sick leave in a manner that does not unduly disrupt the operations of the Board.
3. If the reason for the leave is not foreseeable, the Board of Education requires an employee to give notice of the intention as soon as practicable, provided the Board of Education has notified the employee of this requirement.
4. The Board may prohibit an employee from using foreseeable sick leave on certain dates, and require reasonable documentation if sick leave that is not foreseeable is used during those dates.
5. In case of sick leave claimed for three or more consecutive days, the Board may require reasonable documentation that the leave is being taken for a purpose permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a. and B.1. above.
6. If the leave is permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a.(2) or (3) and B.1.b. or c. above, documentation signed by a health care professional who is treating the employee or the family member of the employee indicating the need for the leave and, if possible, the number of days of leave, shall be considered reasonable documentation.
7. If the leave is permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a.(4) and B.1.d. above because of domestic or sexual violence, any of the following shall be considered reasonable documentation of the domestic or sexual violence:
  - a. Medical documentation;
  - b. A law enforcement agency record or report;



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- c. A court order;
  - d. Documentation that the perpetrator of the domestic or sexual violence has been convicted of a domestic or sexual violence offense;
  - e. Certification from a certified Domestic Violence Specialist or a representative of a designated domestic violence agency or other victim services organization; or
  - f. Other documentation or certification provided by a social worker, counselor, member of the clergy, shelter worker, health care professional, attorney, or other professional who has assisted the employee or family member in dealing with the domestic or sexual violence.
8. If the leave is permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a.(7) and B.1.g. above, a copy of the order of the public official or the determination by the health authority shall be considered reasonable documentation.

### D. Sick Leave Charges

1. An employee who is absent for 51 percent of their work day shall be charged a full sick day if the employee's reason for absence is covered by N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.
2. A sick leave day once commenced may be reinstated as a working day only with the approval of the Superintendent or designee.
3. An employee absent on sick leave on a day when the school is closed early for emergency reasons will be charged with a full sick leave day.
4. An employee scheduled for a sick leave absence on a day on which the schools do not open because of an emergency will not be charged with a sick leave day.

### E. Readmission After Disability





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1. An employee absent on sick leave, covered under N.J.S.A. 18A:30-1.a.(1); (2); and (8) and B.1.a.; b.; and h., for more than five consecutive working days who wishes to return to work shall submit the signed statement of their physician or institution indicating the employee's fitness to perform their duties.
2. The Board may, at its discretion, require the employee submit to an examination by a physician or institution designated by the Board to confirm the information submitted by the employee's physician or institution.
  - a. The Board shall bear the cost of the examination if the examination is performed by a physician or institution designated by the Board.
3. If the results of the examination conducted pursuant to paragraph E.2. above are inconsistent with the statement of the employee's physician in E.1. above, the employee and the Board shall agree to a third physician or institution to conduct the examination. The Board shall bear the cost of this third examination.

### F. Accumulation of Sick Leave

1. If any employee requires in any school year less than the specified number of days of sick leave with pay allowed, all days of such minimum sick leave not utilized that year shall be accumulative to be used for additional sick leave as needed in subsequent years in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-3.

### G. Exhaustion of Sick Leave

1. The Superintendent or designee shall monitor employee accumulated sick leave and charge an employee's accumulated sick leave.
  - a. Sick leave will be charged, first, to the sick leave newly available in the employee's current contract year and, when that sick leave entitlement is exhausted, to the employee's accumulated sick leave.

### H. Records



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1. The personnel file of each person employed by this district will include an accurate record of the employee's use and accumulation of sick leave days.
  - a. The Superintendent or designee will maintain the employees record of accumulated sick leave in accordance with Policy 1642.01 and this Regulation.
2. Each employee's attendance record will record the reason for any absence.

Issued: 29 August 2023



## R 2419 SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS

### A. Definitions

1. “Aberrant behavior” means behavior atypical for the person or situation and causes concern for the safety or well-being of those involved. Aberrant behavior for an individual involves actions, statements, communications, or responses that are unusual for the person or situation; or actions which could lead to violence toward self or others; or are reasonably perceived as threatening or causing concern for the well-being of the person.
2. “Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)” means a proactive approach to identify, assess, and provide appropriate interventions and resources for individuals who display a behavior that elicits concern for the safety of themselves or others. (U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center.)
3. “Concerning behavior” means an observable behavior that elicits concerns in bystanders regarding the safety of an individual or those around them. Behaviors that may elicit concern can include unusual interests in violent topics, conflicts between classmates, increased anger, increased substance use, or other noteworthy changes in behavior (e.g., depression or withdrawal from social activities). Some concerning behaviors may be defined as prohibited behaviors and should trigger an immediate response. Prohibited behaviors can include threats, weapons violations, and other aggressive or violent behavior. Concerning behavior does not necessarily imply or predict that an individual or group will become violent. Instead, it serves as an indicator that the student may be in need of intervention or increased supports. Proactive intervention and de-escalation are key and should be part of any approach to violence prevention.



4. “Concerning communication” means unusual, bizarre, threatening, or violent communication made by an individual or a group that elicit concerns for the safety or wellbeing of the individual or others. Concerning communication may allude to violent intentions, violence as a means to solve a problem, justifying violent acts, unusual interest in weapons, personal grievances, or other inappropriate interests. Concerning communications may also allude to hopelessness or suicide. Concerning communications may be made in the form of written or oral statements, gestures, or visual/electronic media. Communications may be considered concerning regardless of whether a direct verbal threat is expressed. Concerning communication does not necessarily imply or predict that an individual or group will become violent. Instead, it serves as an indicator that the student may be in need of intervention or increased supports. Proactive intervention and de-escalation are key and should be part of any approach to violence prevention.
5. “Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team” means a team composed of highly trained school personnel with diverse positions, backgrounds, and experience. The team will receive reports about a concerning person and situations, gather additional information, assess the risk posed to the community, and develop intervention and management strategies to mitigate any risk of harm.
6. “Targeted violence” means a premeditated act of violence directed at a specific individual, group, or location regardless of motivation and generally unrelated to other criminal activity.

B. Multidisciplinary Threat Assessment Team

1. Threat Assessment Team Members

- a. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.4, the threat assessment team established by the Board of Education shall be multidisciplinary in membership and, to the extent possible, must include the following individuals:

- (1) A Principal or other senior school administrator;



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- (2) A school psychologist, school counselor, school social worker, or other school employee with expertise in student counseling;
  - (3) A safe-schools resource officer or school employee who serves as a school liaison to law enforcement;
  - (4) The school safety specialist (designated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.3); and
  - (5) A teaching staff member.
- b. Additional school employees may serve as regular members of the threat assessment team or may be consulted during the threat assessment process, as determined to be appropriate by the team. If a student has an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 plan, and/or functional behavioral assessment (FBA) plan, the threat assessment team must consult with the appropriate staff or team to determine whether the reported behavior is already part of known baseline behavior or is already being managed under the student's IEP, 504 plan, or FBA plan and addressed in a manner that is required by N.J.A.C. 6A:14 and all other Federal and State special education laws.
- c. The district may choose to name the threat assessment team in a manner that suits the school community needs.

## 2. Threat Assessment Team Structure

- a. The district can structure the threat assessment teams to best meet the needs and resources available. This may include:
- (1) **School-Based Teams:** The district may opt to develop teams for each school comprised of those members fulfilling the assigned roles identified in the law in each of its schools.



- (2) District-Level Team: The district may choose to develop one central team designated to serve each school in cases where staffing at individual schools is not sufficient to meet the membership requirements of the law. In such cases, the district may choose to operate smaller teams trained in the threat assessment process in each school, which can screen cases to determine which situations to refer to the District-Level Team. If the district uses this model, the district must ensure representation of those staff members from the involved school as identified by the law to the fullest extent possible when conducting an assessment.
- (3) District-Level Team and School-Based Teams: The district may have one central team that provides oversight, consistency, and accountability for all threat assessment processes including threats impacting the entire district. School-Based Teams address cases in each school building, while ensuring all information is shared with the District-Level Team.

C. Building a K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Program

The district shall implement the following steps in developing a Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Program.

1. Step 1: Establish a Multidisciplinary Team
  - a. Identify team membership pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-3.4.
  - b. Designate a team leader.
  - c. Establish team procedures and protocols.
  - d. Meet on a regular basis and as needed.



2. Step 2: Define Prohibited and Concerning Behaviors
  - a. Establish policy defining prohibited behaviors
    - (1) These definitions should be included in the code of student conduct policy and shared with staff, parents, and students.
  - b. Identify other behaviors for screening or intervention.
  - c. Define threshold for intervention.
    - (1) The threshold should be relatively low so that teams can identify individuals in distress before the behavior escalates into a violent behavior.
3. Step 3: Create a Central Reporting Mechanism
  - a. Establish one or more anonymous reporting mechanisms.
    - (1) Examples include a mobile application, a dedicated email address or phone number, or on the district website.
  - b. Provide training and guidance to encourage reporting.
    - (1) Students, teachers, staff, school resource officers, and parents should be provided awareness training and guidance on recognizing behaviors of concern, their roles and responsibilities in reporting the behavior, and how to report the information.
  - c. Ensure availability to respond.
  - d. Utilize an Initial Report to collect the threat, concerning behavior, etc.
4. Step 4: Define Threshold for Law Enforcement Intervention
  - a. Most reports can be handled by the School-Based Team.



- b. Establish which behaviors should be referred for law enforcement intervention (e.g., physical violence, threats of violence, etc.).
5. Step 5: Establish Threat Assessment Procedures
  - a. Decide how to document cases.
  - b. Create procedures to screen reports, gather information, make assessments, and decide on interventions.
  - c. Develop/adapt threat assessment forms to organize information around the 11 Investigative Questions referenced in D.4. below.
6. Step 6: Develop Risk Management Options
  - a. Identify all available resources for creating individualized management plans.
    - (1) The resources and supports the student needs will differ depending on the information gathered during the assessment.
    - (2) Resources to assist the student could take the form of peer support programs or therapeutic counseling to enhance social learning or emotional competency, life skills classes, tutoring in specific academic subjects, or mental health care. Most programs and supports will be available within the school, but the team may need to also access community resources to assist with the managing the student. Identify resources to assist targets/victims.
    - (3) Make efforts to address the safety of any potential targets by altering or improving security procedures for schools or individuals and providing guidance on how to avoid the concerning person.





- b. Establish points of contact for all resources.
7. Step 7: Create and Promote Safe School Climates
- a. Assess current school climate.
    - (1) Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21) requires the school safety team in each school in the district “...to develop, foster, and maintain a positive school climate by focusing on the ongoing, systemic process and practices in the school and to address school climate issues...” and to “review and strengthen school climate and the policies of the school.
  - b. Enhance current school climate.
  - c. Strengthen students’ connectedness.
    - (1) Encourage teachers and staff to build positive, trusting relationships with students by actively listening to students and taking an interest in what students say.
  - d. Break down “codes of silence” and help students feel empowered to come forward and share concerns and problems with a trusted adult.
  - e. Identify clubs or teams at school students can join or encourage students to start their own special interest group.
8. Step 8: Conduct Training for all Stakeholders
- a. The training is for new threat assessment team members, refresher training, and professional development. This includes training on the screening and threat assessment forms and procedures.



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- b. Training must be coordinated with the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning (OSPEP) to ensure that the threat assessment team is able to accurately assess student behavior and to ensure that threat assessment teams do not have a disparate impact on students based on their race, ethnicity, homelessness status, religious belief, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. This training includes training on adverse childhood experiences, childhood trauma, cultural competency, and implicit bias.
- c. Awareness training for students, teaching staff members, and all school staff members regarding the recognition of concerning or aberrant behavior in an individual that may represent a threat to the school community.
  - (1) Requests for awareness training can be coordinated by the district's School Safety Specialists through the OSPEP.
- d. Training for parents and other community stakeholders to anonymously report dangerous, violent, or unlawful activity to the district or school.

## D. Threat Assessment and Management Process

The district shall implement the following steps in the threat assessment and management process.

- 1. Step 1: Receive a Report of Concern
  - a. When the threat assessment team first learns of a new report of a threat or aberrant or concerning behavior, the team (or one member of the team) should collect initial intake information about the behavior, the concerning person (i.e., the person who engaged in the threatening behavior; the person to be assessed), and other information that is readily available.



2. Step 2: Screen the Case
  - a. Screen for imminency (of the threat or concerning behavior) and whether there is a need for a full threat assessment.
    - (1) If the threat assessment team believes the report does present an imminent danger or safety concern, immediately notify law enforcement. Once the emergency has been contained, the team should complete a full threat assessment and make all necessary notifications (i.e., anyone that is or may be directly impacted).
  - b. If the team does not believe the report presents an imminent danger or safety concern, determine if there is a need for full threat assessment. If not, document the initial report and screening.
  - c. If there is a need for a threat assessment, the team shall proceed with a full threat assessment using the steps outlined in D.3. through 8. below.
  - d. The district's Title IX Coordinator must be notified immediately if a report involves sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, or a domestic violence assault, or if engagement in these actions is uncovered when gathering additional information during the threat assessment process. Notifying the district's Title IX Coordinator is completed parallel to the threat assessment process and does not stop a team from moving forward with gathering information and initiating risk management strategies.
3. Step 3: Gather Information from Multiple Sources
  - a. Gather information about the person displaying the concerning behavior and situation from various sources. These sources can include, but are not limited to, teachers, coaches, parents, and peers.



4. Step 4: Organize and Analyze
  - a. Organize and analyze information using the 11 Investigative Questions detailed in the U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education threat assessment guide. The form is comprised of 11 investigative questions adapted from the U.S. Secret Services and U.S. Department of Education Threat Assessment in Schools: A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates and can be found at [www.secretservice.gov/nod/2559](http://www.secretservice.gov/nod/2559).
5. Step 5: Make the Assessment
  - a. Make an assessment about whether the individual of concern poses a threat of violence or self-harm, or if they are otherwise in need of intervention.
6. Step 6: Develop and Implement a Case Management/Intervention Plan
  - a. Develop and implement a case management plan to reduce risk.
  - b. As needed, refer individual of concern to the local mental health authority or healthcare provider for evaluation and/or treatment.
  - c. As needed, refer individual of concern for a full and individual evaluation (FIE) for special education services.
7. Step 7: Re-Assess (Case Monitoring)
  - a. Monitor, re-evaluate, and modify plan as needed to ensure that the identified intervention(s) is effective, and the individual of concern no longer poses a threat of violence or self-harm.
  - b. Re-assessing the person of concern, going through the assessment questions again.



- c. If there are still concerns, the team shall continue to monitor, adjust plan, and re-assess as needed until there is no longer a concern of harm to self and/or others, and the individual is on a better path.

8. Step 8: Document and Close the Case

- a. When the team's assessment is that the concerning person no longer poses a threat of violence or self-harm, the team can close the case or place it on the in-active status.
- b. The threat assessment team should be sure to document the case, including scheduling any future dates to check-in or follow-up, as needed.
- c. The documentation should be stored in a confidential file, with only authorized personnel having access.

E. Training

- 1. Each member of the threat assessment team must attend training in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.4. The district may also choose to provide awareness training to school community members on the threat assessment process. The awareness training is also outlined as part of one of the steps of the Building a K-12 Behavior Threat Assessment and Management Program.
- 2. Threat assessment team membership:
  - a. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.4, the NJDOE shall provide training through the New Jersey School Safety Specialist Academy. All threat assessment team members must receive training consistent with the training and guidelines provided by the NJDOE. The school safety specialist, is a member of the threat assessment team and will assist in ensuring this training is provided to school staff in coordination with OSPEP.



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- b. Each new threat assessment team member must complete training by the OSPEP, which shall include training sessions as instructed by *Ontic/SIGMA as part of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) STOP School Violence Grant Program*.
- c. The district shall determine membership on the threat assessment team in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-43.4, including adding and ensuring the training of new members, as needed. The district must ensure all threat assessment team members attend the required initial training and refresher training provided by OSPEP to advance their competency in conducting assessments.
  - (1) These trainings will be offered through the OSPEP for both in person and online platforms.
  - (2) Refresher training will be developed and facilitated by the OSPEP and will be made available through in-person and online platforms, as necessary.

3. Awareness Training for Other School Community Stakeholders

- a. Request for awareness training for school staff members should be directed to the OSPEP email at [school.security@doe.nj.gov](mailto:school.security@doe.nj.gov), which will provide training or coordinate sessions with approved instructors from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Office's Certified Master Training Program.

F. Other Considerations

1. Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plans

- a. The district is required by law to meet the needs of students with special needs, who are afforded disciplinary protections not provided to the general education population, to reduce exclusionary practices for special



education students. When assessing a student whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of the school community, in the case of a student with an IEP or 504 plan, the threat assessment team shall consult with the IEP team or 504 team to determine whether the aberrant or concerning behavior is a threat to school safety and is being properly addressed in a manner that is required by N.J.A.C. 6A:14 and all Federal and State special education laws. Working with the IEP team or 504 team, the threat assessment team shall determine if the behavior is part of known baseline behavior, or is already being managed under the student's IEP, 504 plan, or FBA plan. If the behavior is not consistent with baseline behaviors or is not able to be effectively managed through current programming, then a threat assessment would need to be conducted. A special education representative must be part of the team and shall engage throughout the process.

2. Allegations of Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB) or Bias-Related Acts
  - a. Should the threat assessment team become aware of an allegation of HIB when considering or conducting assessments, they must follow Policy 5512 for addressing allegations of HIB in alignment with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. Additionally, during the threat assessment process, it is important to recognize that the student may need remedial services (e.g., counseling) to address behavior that may have prompted the need for the threat assessment and to ensure their well-being.
  - b. Should a threat assessment team become aware of a bias-related act, they should implement Policy and Regulation 8465 on reporting bias-related acts to law enforcement in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials and Policy and Regulation 9320.



3. Information Sharing

- a. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) are two Federal laws protecting the privacy of an individual's personal records. FERPA refers specifically to educational records while HIPAA refers to medical records. Questions and concerns about FERPA and/or the HIPAA protections often arise as part of the threat assessment planning process. It is critical that threat assessment teams understand how to balance the safety of the school with the privacy of individual students. These laws should not be an impediment to threat assessment and management.
- b. Threat assessment teams should consult with the Board Attorney on these elements as needed.

4. Family Education Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) – Educational Records

- a. FERPA is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. FERPA does, however, authorize school officials to disclose information without consent in emergency situations where the health and/or safety of students is at risk. Relevant information can be released to law enforcement, public health, and medical officials, as well as other schools in the event a student transfers or matriculates. The U.S. Department of Education would not find a school in violation of FERPA for disclosing FERPA-protected information under the health or safety exception as long as the school had a rational basis, based on the information available at the time, for making its determination that there was an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

5. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) – Medical and Mental Health Records





- a. HIPAA protects the confidentiality of information in health records. Confidentiality is held by the patient, not the mental health provider. In cases where HIPAA applies, the following strategies below may assist threat assessment teams in eliminating potential barriers to critical data collection:
  - (1) Ask permission from the student and parent to disclose medical records;
  - (2) Provide information to health and mental professionals; and
  - (3) Ask about duty to warn or duty to protect.
- b. Additionally, medical and mental health providers may disclose protected health information when disclosure:
  - (1) Is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety of patient or others and is to someone reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat; and
  - (2) May include disclosure to law enforcement, or others who can mitigate the threat and disclosure must be consistent with applicable law and standards of ethical conduct.

## 6. Record Keeping

All documentation from the threat assessment process must be maintained in a confidential and secure location. Maintaining records and preserving evidence throughout the process, assists in the establishment of a legal and behavioral justification for the intervention. Records may be electronic or paper and must be maintained in accordance with record retention rules established by the Department of Treasury.

Adopted: 29 August 2023



2415.50 EMMA ARLETH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT AND  
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



**Emma Arleth Elementary School Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement**

- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
    - (1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
      - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
      - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
      - (c) 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
      - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.
  - h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.
- B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components
- 1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:
    - a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council
    - b. Annual Back to School Night
    - c. Title I Parent Sessions



**Emma Arleth Elementary School Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement**

2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:



**Emma Arleth Elementary School Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement**

- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (1) Family Math and Literacy Activities



**Emma Arleth Elementary School** Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement

- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
- (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
- (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (2) Translations whenever possible



**Emma Arleth Elementary School Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement**

7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations



10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.





**Emma Arleth Elementary School** Title I – School Parent  
and Family Engagement

- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023



2415.51 DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL  
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
    - (1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
      - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
      - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
      - (c) 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
      - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.
  - h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.
- B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components
- 1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:
    - a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council
    - b. Annual Back to School Night
    - c. Title I Parent Sessions



2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:



- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (3) Family Math and Literacy Activities



- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
  - (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
  - (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
  - (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (4) Translations whenever possible



7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations





10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.



- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023



2415.52 HARRY S. TRUMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT  
AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

(1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;

(b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;

(c) 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

(d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components

1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:

a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council

b. Annual Back to School Night

c. Title I Parent Sessions



2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:



- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (5) Family Math and Literacy Activities



- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
- (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
- (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (6) Translations whenever possible





7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations



10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.



- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023



2415.53 WOODROW WILSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT  
AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
    - (1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
      - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
      - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
      - (c) 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
      - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.
  - h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.
- B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components
- 1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:
    - a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council
    - b. Annual Back to School Night
    - c. Title I Parent Sessions



2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:



- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (7) Family Math and Literacy Activities





- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
  - (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
  - (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
  - (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (8) Translations whenever possible



7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations



10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.



- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023



2415.54 SAMSEL UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT AND  
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
    - (1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
      - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
      - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
      - (c) 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
      - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.
  - h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.
- B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components
- 1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:
    - a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council
    - b. Annual Back to School Night
    - c. Title I Parent Sessions



2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:





- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (9) Family Math and Literacy Activities



- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
  - (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
  - (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
  - (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (10) Translations whenever possible



7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations



10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.



- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023



2415.55 SAYREVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL TITLE I – SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY  
ENGAGEMENT

A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
  - f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)



- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
    - (1) “Parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
      - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
      - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
      - (c) 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
      - (d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.
  - h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.
- B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components
- 1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:
    - a. Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council
    - b. Annual Back to School Night
    - c. Title I Parent Sessions





2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:

The annual meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year, the same evening as Back-to-School Night. Parents shall be invited through email, the teacher and school website.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:

The meeting presentation will be available on the school website. Options for other meeting times will be provided, as needed.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- a. District-wide Title I meetings
- b. Professional Development opportunities

5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:



- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;
  - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
    - (a) Parent workshops
    - (b) Parent-Teacher Conferences
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
  - a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
    - (1) Parent-Teacher Conferences
    - (2) Parent Workshops
    - (11) Family Math and Literacy Activities



- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:  
*(List activities)*
- (1) Professional Development Workshops
  - (2) Professional Learning Communities
- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- (1) Articulation with Preschool Programs
  - (2) Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, Preschool Supervisor
  - (3) Parent-Teacher Organizations
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent 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:
- (1) School and District Websites
  - (2) Communication through email and mailed letters
  - (12) Translations whenever possible



7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:
  - a. Articulation with the Preschool Programs
  - b. Director of Early Childhood, Supervisor of Early Childhood, Preschool Supervisor
  - c. Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:
  - a. Parental survey conducted by Principal
  - b. Results used to plan future programming
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Feedback provided and shared at meeting of parent organizations



10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:
  - a. Solicit feedback
  - b. Integrate feedback in the plan
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement:
    - a. Solicit input from all stakeholders
    - b. Cooperatively develop school-parent compact
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  1. 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.



- b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, 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.
- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section.



E. Accessibility

1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:
  - a. Provide translations whenever possible
  - b. Optimize use of technology to translate

F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1116(a)(2)

First Reading: 29 August 2023

