



Visalia Unified School District

Mt. Whitney High School

Title 1 – Part A School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Mt. Whitney High School, with parents and family members, has jointly developed, mutually agreed upon, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children in Title I, Part A programs the following requirements as outlined in ESSA sections 1116(b) and (c).

Describe how parents and family members of participating children in Title I, Part A programs are involved in jointly developing, distributing to, a written school parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents for carrying out the requirements in ESSA Section 1116(c) through (f) (ESSA Section 1116[b][1]):

In order to gain input from a variety of parents and families, various school committees such as School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Council and our PTSA will be consulted in the development of this plan. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be included in beginning of the year handouts distributed to all students the first week of school each year. Families can also view the plan on the school website and give feedback via a Google Form.

Describe how parents and family members of participating children in Title I, Part A programs, may amend a parent and family engagement school policy that applies to all parents and family members, if necessary, to meet the requirements (ESSA Section 1116[b][2]):

Parents are provided with opportunities to express comments, concerns, and suggestions regarding parent activities, the parent and family engagement plan, school compact, and Single Plan for Student Achievement by attending School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Council, and/or Parent Teacher Student Association meetings. Parents will be notified in advance of these meetings and encouraged to attend.

Describe how the Local Educational Agency (LEA) involved has a school district-level parent and family engagement policy that applies to all parents and family members in all schools served by the LEA, and how the LEA may amend that policy, if necessary to meet the requirements (ESSA Section 1116[b][3]):

Visalia Unified School District has several district level parent councils. Two of these, District Advisory Council and District English Learner Advisory Council have site parent and teacher representatives who attend these meetings. Typically, these members also serve on the school's site council. These members are able to provide input on behalf of the school site in regards to changing or amending VUSD's district level parent and family engagement policy.

Describe how parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs can, if they find that the plan under ESSA Section 1112 is not satisfactory to the parents and family members, and the LEA shall submit the parent comments with the plan when the LEA submits the plan to the State (ESSA Section 1116[b][4]):

All parents are welcome to attend School Site Council meetings, as they would a school board meeting. The meeting agenda is posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to each meeting. Parents are welcome to attend these meetings to submit comments during the meetings. These comments are included in meeting notes and submitted to Visalia Unified's Accountability office.

Describe how the school served by Title I, Part A funds holds an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents and family members of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A and to explain the requirements and the rights of the parents to be involved (ESSA Section 1116[c][1]):

On Back to School Night, families convene in the gym for a brief presentation before heading out to classrooms. During this time, the site principal provides information regarding Mt. Whitney's Title I Part A program as well as parents' right to be involved in decisions regarding how Title I Part A funds are used to improve student academic achievement. This meeting is held during Back to School Night as this is the time we have the largest parent audience in a single setting.

Describe the steps that the school takes to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning, afternoon, evening or other ways and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, for transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement (ESSA Section 1116[c][2]):

School Site Council meetings take place after school hours as we have student members on the council. Meetings for the year are scheduled in advance to allow parents time to plan ahead and communicate any hard schedule conflicts. We are flexible in our ELAC meeting locations to make participation possible for parents who do not have transportation to Mt. Whitney for meetings. We will hold meetings at feeder sites to accommodate these parents. We will, within reason, accommodate parents who communicate a desire to participate in meeting, but are unable to do so due to transportation or conflicts with meeting

Describe how parents and family members of participating children are involved, and in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of schoolwide program plan under ESSA Section 1114(b), except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children (ESSA Section 1116[c][3]):

Parents are provided opportunities to participate in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I Part A programs as described in the Single Plan for Student Achievement via participation in School Site Council, ELAC, PTSA, and DAC. Parents are provided information regarding SSC elections as well as times and locations of PTSA meetings. Each group reviews the plan, associated data, and has the opportunity to provide input. Meeting agendas for School Site Council are publicly posted prior to the meetings allowing all parents to provide input on the plan, regardless of membership on Mt. Whitney's SSC.

Describe how the school is providing parents and family members of participating children of Title I, Part A programs: timely information about programs under Title I, Part A; a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible (ESSA sections 1116[c][4][A-C]):

Title I Part A programs are shared at the annual Title I meeting held immediately prior to visiting classrooms at Back to School Night.

Parents receive information regarding curriculum in use and forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress at Back to School Night via in person explanation, the class syllabus, and on the VUSD curriculum website. Further assistance, as needed is provided through individual conferences with parents and teachers. Because we communicate academic progress to parents utilizing letter-based grading on content standards, parents are provided information regarding their student's progress and achievement levels every six weeks. Each report card has indicators for reference on student performance. If requested by parents, we will provide for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and allow for participation, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children. As with any other request or suggestion, we will respond as soon as possible. We value partnering with our parents in supporting the academic and overall success of their student.

Describe how the schoolwide program plan, ESSA Section 1114(b), is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children in Title I, Part A programs, submitting any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the LEA (ESSA Section 1116[c][5]):

The schoolwide plan is posted on the VUSD website for public review. Any parent comments regarding dissatisfaction with the plan that are submitted to the school will be submitted with the plan to the district before board approval.

Mt. Whitney High School's Title I, Part A School Parent and Family Engagement Policy was developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs on _____, 2022. The School will distribute the policy to all parents and family members of participating Title I, Part A students annually on or before (_____, 2022).

Signature Page

Robert Aguilar, Principal Mt. Whitney High School

Name and Title of Authorized Official

Signature of Authorized Official

_____, 2022

Date