

Elementary Family Engagement Policy

Frankstown Elementary, Foot of Ten Elementary, Longer Elementary

It is the policy of the Hollidaysburg Area School District's Title 1 program to encourage active participation of parents and those in the role of parents as required in Section 1116 of ESSA. This policy includes a commitment to guide/reinforce/increase parent and family engagement by building a strong partnership emphasizing the shared responsibilities among students, families, and school teams.

In compliance with federal law, the Hollidaysburg Area School District and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I Programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written Family Engagement Plan for a Title I school.

When implemented, the district shall:

OBJECTIVE 1:

Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of the Title I plan and the process of school review and improvements and coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other Federal, State, and local laws and programs (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)).

Strategies for reaching objective:

1. Develop and disseminate district parental and family engagement policy.
 - Meet the Teacher Night
 - District Website
 - Board of Directors Report
2. Conduct an annual meeting to review and update the effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
3. Reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parent and family engagement.
4. Establish a parental and family engagement contact person at the Title I School.
5. Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
6. Ensure Homeless students have access to Title I services if they qualify and title funding to support them.
7. Hold at least 1 parent and family engagement professional development event per year where current strategies being used to support students in the classroom are shared with parents.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Provide support and technical assistance and other support to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(B)).

Strategies for reaching objectives:

1. District Parent and Family Engagement Policy is disseminated to all Title I teachers to guide the development of Building Parent and Family engagement policies.
2. During building Title I Meet the Teacher Night, inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental and family engagement policy and their right to be involved.
3. Monitor the Title I school to ensure it performs the following tasks:
 - Develop a parent and family engagement policy.
 - Offer flexible meeting times.
 - Provide information to parents about the school's program, including parent information guides.
 - Participate in goal-setting conferences.
 - Provide a copy of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy for each parent.
 - Encourage parents to provide feedback by contacting the Title I teacher or through the website.
 - Provide materials for training to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.
 - Provide newsletters and activities to keep parents updated on current parent/student engagement practices.
 - Encourage parents to visit/volunteer in the classroom

OBJECTIVE 3:

Conduct, with the meaningful engagement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools and identifies barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, with particular attention to economically disadvantaged parents, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background; the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii)).

Strategies for reaching objective:

1. Develop procedures to document parent participation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; workshop schedules and brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
2. Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.

OBJECTIVE 4:

Use the findings of the annual evaluation to design strategies for more effective evidence –based parental/family engagement, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(E)).

Strategies for reaching objective:

1. Make recommendations for parental and family engagement policy revisions.
2. Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental and family engagement