

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

AWE believes that the education of children is an ongoing cooperative partnership between the home and the school. Parents and family members are their children's first teachers. The continued involvement of family members in the educational process is most important in fostering and improving educational achievement.

AWE encourages all parents and families to be informed and to participate in decisions affecting the school and their children's education. The involvement of parents and families in developing a Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and assisting with the School Improvement team, will increase its effectiveness and contribute to the success of AWE students. This policy will be shared with all parents and families and reviewed yearly. AWE offers the following:

Operation of Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

- Federally supported program offers assistance to educationally and economically disadvantaged children.
- Provides instructional activities and supportive services to students above and beyond those provided by regular school program.
- School-wide Title I school. All students at AWE receive benefits from Title I funding.
- Leader in Me school curriculum includes parent education and encourages leadership at home and at school

Notification of Requirements to Parents and Families:

- Provide a copy of the Parent Handbook which includes Parent and Family Engagement Policy, rights, and opportunities for parent involvement.
- AWE report card, progress reports, mClass Home Connect letters, Student screener data and assessment data (BOG, EOG, mClass)
- Teacher qualification, if not Highly Qualified.
- Information to parents of students involved in LEP (Limited English Proficient) program.

Annual Public Meetings:

- Meetings and school wide family events inform parents about services provided by Title I. The Fall meeting includes assessment results from the previous year. An overview of Parent and Family Engagement Policy in adjournment with Open House or Orientation meetings. Spring meeting/spring family event allows parents and staff to evaluate the Title I program through parent surveys and is also accessible through Facebook and Remind.

- Parents and families are notified of meetings, family events, and all upcoming events via informational flyers, posted notices in the office, on school marquee, school website, Facebook page, and phone alert system, and the Remind App.

Family Events

- Parents and families are surveyed in the fall for topics of interest for Parent and Family events or needed trainings. Information gained is used in planning for the upcoming school year.
- Family events may include state and local assessments, reading and math support for students, informational sessions on programs used (school and district wide), etc.
- Scheduled at flexible times.
- Take home materials when possible
- Information made available to those who cannot attend.

Involving Parents and Families:

- Parents and families complete surveys and questionnaires to evaluate effectiveness of Title I programs and how funding is being used. This information is used for improvements.
- Parents and families are members on decision making committees such as PTA, School Improvement Team, Title I Parent and Family Representative, and AWE Parent Panel.
- All training sessions, meetings, and or events include parent evaluations. Information used to plan future meetings.
- Parent advisors participate with school leadership teams to identify school needs.

Timely Information/ Parent Assistance and Opportunities:

- Open House is held at the beginning of the school year allowing visits to the classrooms and teacher introductions.
- Orientation is held in the first month of school, including an introduction to the curriculum and visits to the classroom.
- Thursday Blue folders /papers sent home weekly for parents to review.
- Information tables set up in the lobby during family events. These may include Title I, cafeteria/nutrition, assessment data, curriculum information, school nurse information, bus information, etc. Staff members address parent questions.
- A Parent Resource center is available. Parents and families may check out books and learning materials.
- Parents and families are strongly encouraged to attend PTA meetings and activities. They will be notified of these activities, as well as all trainings, in advance.

- For parents and families with disabilities (physical impairments, learning impairments, hearing or vision loss) or Limited English Proficiency, assistance will be provided so they can also participate in school activities. Once a need is identified, it will be met. AWE is Handicapped Accessible. Also directional information is written in Braille. Interpreters can be provided. Information is included on the school website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and on flyers posted at school entrances.

Regular Communication:

- Parent Conferences (in person, Zoom, or phone) held throughout the school year. Staff members address questions and review student progress.
- Report cards and progress reports sent home for parents and families to review and sign.
- Blue Communication Folders are sent home each Thursday which may include individual assessment data.
- Parent and family input requested when the child begins the MTSS (Multiple Tiered System of Support). Parents and families provide background information for any educational plans.
- Parents and families involved in writing their child's IEP (Individual Education Plan) and 504 Accommodation Plan.
- Parent input and signature is required for AIG documentation.

Parent Compacts (School Brochures):

- Designed to help develop student potential in all developmental areas.
- Parents, teachers, and students agree on the responsibilities of each party in the learning process.
- The Compact brochure is available to parents on the website and hard copies are available in the office at the beginning of the school year or when children first arrive at AWE.

Education of School Personnel:

- Ways of effective communication with parents is shared with school staff.
- Teachers and parents working together as a team improves student chances of mastering challenging standards.

Coordinating and Integrating/connections with other programs which yield successful academic results;

- Parent Resource Center

- MTSS Interventionist Team is composed of North Carolina certified Teachers and School Psychologist. All teachers (including Exceptional Education Teachers and regular classroom teachers, Counselor, Principal, Assistant Principal) work to provide service to students needing help.
- PTA supports school projects with talent, time, and money
- Grants sought through Partners in Education, Carteret-Craven EMC, and other sources
- Additional reading and writing opportunities provided through International Reading Association and other literacy organizations.
- Craven County Social Services used as a resource to help families. Referrals made by school staff when needed.
- MFLAC (Military Family Liaison) assists military children and parents.
- Marine squadron volunteers for various activities as needed.
- MTSS (Multiple Tiered System of Support) addresses academic and behavioral needs of students.
- A system of positive social emotional and behavioral supports (PBIS) is in place in classrooms school wide through Leader in Me curriculum and materials.
- Leader in Me Lighthouse teams (adult and student) make school decisions.