



School, Parent, and Family Engagement Policy
Worthington Park Elementary – Principal: Patrick Garrity
2023-24
Revision Date 10/01/2023 - currently under revision for 23-24

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Worthington Park** receives Title I, Part A funds and must jointly develop with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the “Every Student Succeeds Act” (ESSA). The policy establishes the school’s expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school’s plan submitted to the district.

Worthington Park agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, 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 the targeted assistance program plan.
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of ESSA in an understandable and uniform format - including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
- 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:
 - Parents play an integral role in assisting their children’s learning;
 - Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children’s education at school;
 - Parents are full partners in their children’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their children; and
 - Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of ESSA.

Required School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

The school parent and family engagement policy includes a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components:

- **Jointly Developed**

Worthington Park Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely manner in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, 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.

At the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, Worthington Park Elementary will establish a Title Parent Advisory Committee that will meet throughout the school year. The purpose of the committee will be to plan, review and improve parent and family engagement programs. Worthington Park Elementary will hold quarterly meetings via Zoom (unless parents express an interest to do in-person meetings). The Zoom recording will be shared with families who can not attend the Parent Advisory Zooms. The meetings are scheduled for:

Meeting #1:	November 14, 2023	6:30 - 7:00 (Zoom)
Meeting #2:	December 6, 2023	6:30 - 7:00 (Zoom)
Meeting #3:	January 17, 2023	6:30 - 7:00 (Zoom)
Meeting #4:	February 21, 2024	6:30 - 7:00 (Zoom)

Committee Members:

Patrick Garrity - Principal

Kandi Murdock - Title I Math

Title I & Other Interested Parents - *The Worthington Park school and staff strives to **partner** with **parents** and is grateful for the parents that have volunteered to be a part of this committee. New members are always welcome.

- **Annual Title I Meeting**

Worthington Park Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, and the school-parent compact.

Worthington Park Elementary will hold its **Annual Title I Family Meeting** (in February or March in combination with the EL program) in the gymnasium, classrooms, and school library . Parents will be informed of the meeting via email, a paper copy will be sent home, as well as other social media outlets. The purpose of the meeting is to disseminate information about the Title program, specifically offered at Worthington Park Elementary.

- **Communications**

Worthington Park Elementary will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs;
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement; and
- 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.

To communicate with parents, Worthington Park Elementary uses email blasts, phone calls, invitations to events, written correspondence, and U.S. mail. To communicate with Title I non-English speaking parents various means of communication could be implemented: EL teachers, interpreters, and written communication in native languages via Talking Points app.

Patrick Garrity, principal of Worthington Park Elementary states, *"I expect my teachers to consistently communicate with families regarding student progress and school events."*

- **School-Parent Compact**

Worthington Park Elementary will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Worthington Park is a targeted program that understands the importance of the school experience to every student and their roles as educators and models. The school has a [school-parent compact](#) in effect for the 2023-2024 school year, which is posted on the school website, and each parent was given a copy of the school-parent compact at conferences.

- **Reservation of Funds (applicable to districts with Title I allocations of \$500,000 or more)**
Worthington Park Elementary will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent.

Patrick Garrity, principal of Worthington Park Elementary is aware that the Worthington City School District is a district that is allocated \$500,000 or more in funding and must reserve 1 percent of their funding for parent and family engagement. To prepare for the Title 1 Meeting, Kandi Murdock will gather data from the Parent & Family Engagement Committee, regarding "Reservation of Funds". She will explain "Reservation of Funds" and share a list of how Worthington Park Elementary currently uses this money for parent and family engagement activities and programs, as well as, gather input into how the funds might be used in other ways.

- **Coordination of Services**
Worthington Park Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Worthington Park houses "Care After School," which provides on-site child care for the school's community after school. A partnership with the Family Mentor Foundation, as well as various churches and community members, helps Worthington Park make "buddy boxes" (weekend meals for students), "Ready for Reading" brings in volunteers to support struggling readers and a "Circle of Grandparents" helps Worthington Park students with lessons on the word of the month.

- **Building Capacity of Parents**
 - Worthington Park Elementary will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:
 - Provide parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and the achievement levels in regards to the challenging state academic standards;
 - Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement; and
 - Provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging state's academic standards;
 - The state and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments;
 - How to monitor their children's progress; and
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Parents learn about the state's challenging academic standards and technology at our Title 1 Night. We also present ways our local Worthington Park Public Library can help our families in various ways.

Worthington city school posts an [Assessment Calendar](#) on their website. In addition, parents are notified via email when district and state assessments will take place.

“Infinite Campus” is a district program that parents can access to check their child’s academic performance consistently throughout the year. In addition, teachers at Worthington Park Elementary communicate academic progress officially via “report cards” three times a year. The staff at Worthington Park is always available to discuss a child’s progress via phone calls or emails.

Sample List - “Building Capacity of Parents”

Meet the Teacher/Open House	August 14, 2023
Curriculum Night	August 31, 2023
Parent / Teacher Conferences	October 16-29, 2023
Title 1/EL Night	To Be Determined
Parent / Teacher Conferences	February 5-8, 2024
Read Across America	March 2024
PTA Meetings	Meetings held on the 3rd Wednesdays of each month

- **Building Capacity of School**

Worthington Park Elementary will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

The faculty and staff of Worthington Park are provided yearly professional development, both intentional and embedded, in ways to appropriately engage with students and/or parents/guardians to build capacity, student self-efficacy and enhance the self-esteem of such children. The faculty and staff of Worthington Park Elementary supports learning for all students in a nurturing, caring environment and a belief that all students can learn.