



2024-25 Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Boys' Latin of Philadelphia ("Boys' Latin" or "the school") receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of students a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act ("ESSA"). This policy establishes Boys' Latin'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 Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE").

Boys' Latin agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory students, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to parents, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the state Department of Education.
- The school will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that we will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:
 - Parental involvement 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 student's learning.
 - Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their student's education at school.
 - Parents are full partners in their student's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their student.
 - Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

Description of How the School will Implement Required School LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components:

Jointly Developed:

Boys' Latin will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESSA:

- Host regular meetings of parents, members of the community, and school employees to discuss the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the Title I program.
- Engage representatives from each school's parent leadership group, the Extended Family Network ("EFN"), to review and update the school's Title I Schoolwide Plan annually.
- Host Back-to-School Night, EFN Meetings, Parent/Teacher Conferences, College and Career Preparation Meetings, Parent Workshops, and other similar events.

Technical Assistance:

Boys' Latin will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education:

- The Federal Programs Coordinator will provide guidance and support on appropriate use of parent involvement funds and review *Title I Parent Involvement Plan, Schoolwide Plan, and School-Parent Compact* to ensure compliance.

Annual Title I Meeting:

Boys' Latin will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, parent requirements, the *Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Schoolwide Plan, and School-Parent Compact*.

- The school administers the Parent Survey annually in March and shares results in June. The survey is an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the *Parent and Family Engagement Policy* in improving the academic quality of Boys' Latin under Title I, Part A, including barriers to greater participation in activities; the need of parents to assist with the learning of their students, including engaging with teachers and other school personnel; and strategies to support successful school and family evaluation to design evidence-based interventions.
- The school uses the findings of the Parent Survey to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise the *Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Title I Parent Involvement Program, Schoolwide Plan, and School-Parent Compact* as necessary.
- The school meets throughout the school year to evaluate and update the progress of Title I programs.

Communications:

Boys' Latin will take the following actions to provide parents 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, childcare or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
 - Methods of information distribution include Back-to-School Night handouts, school website, parent/teacher conferences, and EFN meetings.

School-Parent Compact:

Boys' Latin will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the state's high standards.

- Parents, members of the community, employees meet to discuss the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the Title I program regularly.
- Representatives from each school's parent leadership group review and update the school's Title I Schoolwide Plan annually.
- Boys' Latin holds at least one meeting annually to review Title I policies and services offered through the school. Copies of the school's current policy are distributed both before and at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the revising and updating as necessary.

Reservation of Funds:

Boys' Latin will involve parents in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

- The Federal Programs Coordinator and EFN Coordinator work together to plan for the 1% reservation of funds each school year. The budget information will be shared during the initial meeting in September. The EFN Coordinator will plan the activities for family engagement.

Coordination of Services:

Boys' Latin will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their students by:

- Coordinating with the EFN to facilitate parent meetings, parent engagement activities, and parent/student information sessions.

Building Capacity of Parents:

Boys' Latin 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 by providing:

- 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 of the challenging state academic standards.
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their student to improve their student'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
- Assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging state academic standards.
 - The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments.
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - How to monitor their student's progress.
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their student.
- Resources to parents and online assistance to parents needing help with any subject area.
- Laptops at the school site for parents to use during the school day and some evenings.

Building Capacity of School Staff:

Boys' Latin 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 by:

- Sending home newsletters.
- Sending home graded papers.
- Making home visits.
- Scheduling parent/teacher conferences.
- Making phone calls; sending home homework.
- Encouraging parents to serve as volunteers/tutors.
- Attending conferences, seminars, workshops, and meetings with parents.
- Serving together on school committees.

Building Capacity for Involvement:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their student's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with students and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Establish a schoolwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.