



**Northwoods Elementary School**  
**Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
**2024-2025**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Northwoods Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on 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 local educational agency (LEA).

Northwoods Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve families, 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 school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of families and the school, distribute it to the families 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 families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families of migratory children, 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 families understand.
- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:  
Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
  - (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

- (C) families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

The staff at Northwoods Elementary believe educating our children should be a continuous collaboration between the home, school, and the community. To ensure parent and family engagement in the planning and implementation of the Title I program, the following activities will be implemented at Northwoods Elementary:

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Northwoods Elementary School will take the following actions to involve families 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 families, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Families will be involved in the development of Northwoods' parent and family engagement policy by:

- inclusion on Northwoods Elementary's Strategic Planning Team (SPT).
- representing Northwoods Elementary on Onslow County's District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC).
- providing Fall and Spring Parent Surveys.

### **ANNUAL TITLE I MEETINGS**

Parent Events (Math Night, Literacy Night, RTA Night, AVID, etc.) will be held during the school year to provide continued information, support, and resources for all parents and families. Flexible meeting times, childcare, and transportation may be provided, as needed. Parents and families will be strongly encouraged to attend other school workshops, conferences, volunteer in classroom activities, and observe in the Title I classrooms.

Northwoods Elementary will periodically update its Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school through the Annual Fall and Spring meetings.

An Annual Fall Meeting will be held in conjunction with Open House or another Family Event to

- Inform parents and families about the school's facilities and its Title I Schoolwide designation.
- Inform parents and families of summary results of the prior year's EOG Testing, if available.
- Provide parents and families with an overview of the Title I Program.
- Provide parents and families with information concerning parent and family engagement requirements, assessment data, school performance profiles, and forms or methods of measuring students' progress.

The Annual Spring Meeting will be held in conjunction with another family event

- To evaluate and/or make improvements on current program or upcoming activities.
- To solicit input from parents and families in the design and implementation of the School Improvement Plan and Parent and Family Engagement policy for the upcoming year.
- To share overall preliminary EOG results, if available, and alert parents and families that individual reports, if available, will be sent home at the end of year in report cards.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Northwoods Elementary will take the following actions to provide to families of participating children:

- 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 families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand.
- parents will receive a paper copy of Northwoods Elementary's Parent and Family Engagement Policy. A link to the document will be provided on our school's website.
- monthly Newsletters, social media, and the all-call system will be utilized to inform families of upcoming events, meetings, and programs.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Northwoods Elementary staff members, parents and families will jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy to be distributed annually to parents and families of all children. This document will be available to parents and families on the school website. It will be shared at intake meetings for new students. Review of the policy will occur annually at the Spring Meeting with opportunities for input at the school throughout the spring.

Northwoods Elementary will incorporate the Family/School Agreement compact as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy. The compact will be distributed to parents during the school enrollment process. A copy of the compact will be accessible on the school website.

## **COORDINATING AND INTEGRATING PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

At Northwoods Elementary, we coordinate our programs and activities with the following staff and programs to support parent and family participation in the education of their children:

- English Language Learners/EL District leaders
- School nurse, counselor, military liaison, social worker
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Parent and Family Resource Center
- Onslow County Schools/Preschool Information Transition Fair
- School Adoption partnership with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 6<sup>th</sup> Marines at Camp Lejeune
- Jacksonville Rotary

Once a need is identified, we will assist parents and families with limited English proficiency and parents and families with disabilities in the opportunity to participate in their children's educational curriculum and environment.

- Spanish version of district forms, as well as "Reading Connection" and "Math and Science Connection" will be provided through Federal Programs at Central Services.
- Spanish versions of school newsletters and other documents are available.
- The EC Department provides Spanish versions of the Parent Rights handbook.
- All parents will be invited to participate on school committees.
- Translators are available for Parent/Teacher conferences and other school functions.
- Staff access to digital translators.

## **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If applicable, Northwoods Elementary will take the following actions to involve the families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- sharing/approving the budget decisions through the Strategic Planning Team.
- asking parents to provide input for workshops through a fall Title I Parent Information Survey and as members of the Strategic Planning Team.

## **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

We will meet our goals of establishing liaisons and maintaining communication with other school programs and other related external agencies and organizations through collaboration and coordination with individuals in those groups and through the following actions:

- Notifying parents and families of assistance from outside agencies, such as food banks, Salvation Army, United Way, church programs for assistance, recreation/sports/arts opportunities, Boy and Girl Scouts, the public library, Children Healthy Eating on Weekends, and summer programs.
- Inviting participation by adults from the community into school assemblies and programs with notification via flyers and social media. Such as, Military Adoption Ceremonies, Veterans Day Reception, and guest speakers.
- Enabling distribution of food donated by local churches.
- Partnership with the Jacksonville Rotary for holiday shopping excursions.
- Providing weekly backpacks of food for students participating in Children Healthy Eating on Weekends.
- Supplying guidance counselor supervision and distribution of shoes for students who qualify for new shoes from Rack Room.
- Supporting participation in LAMP Night school events sponsored by the library/media center, art, music, and physical education teachers at our school.
- School Adoption partnership with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 6<sup>th</sup> Marines at Camp Lejeune. Marines will serve as mentors for students, volunteer at school events, and serve in various manners identified by school administrators, staff, and the guidance counselor.
- Accessing services as needed through the Crisis Center in Jacksonville.
- Supporting the work of the Military Student Liaison.
- Coordinating food drives to generate food donations for the United Way of Onslow food bank.
- Partnership with local business.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Training topics are determined by our needs assessment data and Fall & Spring Parent Surveys data.

- Reading and math training events will each be held during the year between the Annual Fall Meeting and Annual Spring meeting dates.
- Curriculum Nights will be held at the beginning of the Academic year for teachers to review state standards in curriculum and recent assessments, provide strategies to improve student achievement, and explain ways to monitor student progress, such as weekly folders, progress reports, report cards, phone communication, Class Dojo, and conferences.
- Parents and families will be notified in advance of the scheduled activities.
- Parents and families may request additional meetings with staff members to address questions or concerns.

- Instructional plans and assessment information will also be communicated to parents and families through weekly phone updates, monthly newsletters, agendas, Class DOJO, and teacher websites.
- Materials for parent and family information and for use with their children are available at the Parent and Family Resource Center. The materials in this center are available for circulation through a check-out and return log folder.
- Materials are available on campus for parent and family information and for use with their children by contacting the school guidance counselor, social worker, administrators, Title I teachers, or other school staff.