



# ARCTIC LIGHT SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

As authorized under ESEA, as amended

School Year 2024-2025  
Revision Date: September 12, 2024

# Contents

Overview	2
Required Parent and Family Engagement Plan Components	3
Joint Development	3
Annual Title I, Part A Meeting	3
Communications	3
School-Parent Compact	4
Reservation of Funds	4
Coordination	5
Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members	5
Building Capacity of School Staff	6
Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional	6
Adoption	7

## Overview

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Fairbanks North Star Borough School District** 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 plan that contains information required by Section 1116(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. The plan establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The **Fairbanks North Star Borough School District** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in Section 1116 of the ESEA, as amended:

- 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 plan and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. [§1118(c)(3)]
- Update the school parent and family member plan periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents and family members of participating children, and make the parental involvement plan available to the local community. [§1118(b)(1)]
- In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA, as amended, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. [§1116(e)(4)]
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA, as amended, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the district. [§1118(c)(5)]
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
    - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
    - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
    - that parents 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
    - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116. [§8101(39)]

# Required Parent and Family Engagement Plan Components

## Joint Development

**Arctic Light Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A 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 child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

***Describe/List how parents and family members will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement plan and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parental involvement programs.***

- Title I meeting Parent Engagement Planning: 9/12/24 (Jill Pfaff)
- Title I Parent Survey sent to gather input and feedback: 9/13/24
- Title I Annual Parent Meeting: 10/8/24
- Parent Teacher Conference Days include specific Title I input opportunities: 10/31-11/1/2024 & 2/13-14/2025

## Annual Title I, Part A Meeting

**Arctic Light** 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, Part A program, the nature of the Title I, Part A program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family plan, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

***Describe/List when the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved.***

2024-2025 Annual Title I Meeting held on: October 8, 2024 at 5pm

- Parents are surveyed in the fall to determine the best time to hold parent meetings and what type of family engagement activities would be preferred.
- The Title I Brochure is available on the school's website's dedicated [Title I page](https://arc.k12northstar.org/about/title-i-information): (<https://arc.k12northstar.org/about/title-i-information>)
- Communication/Invitations: The Title I Parent meeting is noticed to parents using multiple outreach methods, including ParentSquare text messages, Facebook, and ParentSquare school newsletters.

## Communications

**Arctic Light Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:**

Timely information about Title I, Part A 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 parental involvement.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
- If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings 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.
- Information related to the school and parent and family member 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.

***Describe/List how the parent and family engagement plan will be distributed to parents and family members and how the school is going to communicate with parents and family members including information about how the school will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.***

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan is distributed to parents at the following locations/events:

- Posted on the school's website: <https://arc.k12northstar.org/>
- Parent-Teacher Conferences in the Fall and Spring
- The Annual Title I Meeting scheduled: October 8, 2024
- Title I Planning Team Meetings – parents are involved in developing the Family Engagement Plan every year
- Interpreters are provided for bilingual families to help communicate during meetings
  - Newsletter - Distributed via ParentSquare to all families.
    - The school newsletters include pertinent and timely Title I information
    - The newsletters are posted on the Arctic Light Facebook page for public viewing.
- Back To School Night
  - A dedicated Title I information table with staff available at the table to answer questions
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - One-on-one conversations between parents and teachers to explicitly review and discuss their child's academic progress
- Title I Annual Parent Meeting on October 8, 2024
  - Title I Annual Parent Meeting includes information on curriculum and assessments
  - Curriculum and Assessment information also available on the school and district websites
- School and District website
- ParentSquare messaging (text, emails)

## School-Parent Compact

**Arctic Light Elementary School** 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 the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

### ***Describe/List the process the school will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.***

During the 2024-2025 school year, Arctic Light will review the School-Parent-Student compact at the Titlewide Meeting (10/8/2024) and then present the revised Compact with families during Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences. During the conferences, staff solicit additional input and suggestions from parents which are then gathered and shared with the school Title I team for consideration for future revisions.

- Titlewide Meeting October 8, 2024
  - Reviewed and significantly revised the School-Parent-Student Compact with staff and parent representative input
- Parent/Teacher Conferences October 31 & November 1, 2024
  - Revised School-Parent-Student Compacts were distributed and reviewed with parents during the Fall Parent/Teacher conferences
- Additional Distribution
  - School-Parent-Student Compacts were included in the school newsletter to ensure families have every opportunity to review and give feedback on the Compact.
- Input and Feedback
  - Parent/Family input and feedback on the compact is collected throughout the year and considered for subsequent revisions

## Reservation of Funds

The **Fairbanks North Star Borough School District** will 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 parental and family engagement is spent. *(Only applicable to districts with an allocation of \$500,000 or more.)*

- Funds reserved under this section by the district agency shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement plan, including not less than 1 of the following:
  - (i) Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for local educational agency and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members.
  - (ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
  - (iii) Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
  - (iv) Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
  - (v) Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the local educational agency determines are appropriate and consistent with such agency's parent and family engagement plan.

***Describe/List how the school will involve parents in the decision making about how the 1% reservation of Title I, Part A funds is spent.***

- Parent representatives are involved in Titlewide Meetings:
  - September 12, 2024 (Family Engagement)
  - February 15, 2025 (Evaluation & Needs Assessment)
  - May 2, 2025 (FY26 Plan Review)
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting: October 8, 2024
- Title I Family Engagement Activity Planning
  - Family Engagement Activities: aligned with prioritized student academic achievement needs
  - Parent representative included on each Title I Family Engagement Activity Planning form
  - Evaluations collected and summarized after each family engagement activity event
- Evaluations and feedback from Family Nights/Events are collected and reviewed and directly influence the direction for future events
- Title I Spring Survey includes opportunity for feedback on the year's family engagement activities and suggestions for future planning

## **Coordination**

**Arctic Light Elementary School** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

***Describe/List how the school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other relevant programs, organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.***

- Our programs and organizations include: non-affiliated parent groups, North Haven Communities, Kiwanis.
  - We share our goals. They share their skills, interests, and abilities. We find a plan that works for everyone.
- Review of programs occurs at the beginning of semesters and during/after events.
- Arctic Light's leadership is actively reaching out to form partnerships with local businesses and organizations.
  - We have received donations from local businesses for our events
- Arctic Light coordinates with the following Federal and State Programs and staff:
  - English Learner Program
  - Migrant Education Program
  - McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison
  - Foster Care Liaison
  - Special Education to ensure eligible students and families are receiving specialized services.
  - Nutrition Services: Free/Reduced Lunch Program

## Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

**Arctic Light Elementary School** will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents and family members 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 proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Providing parents and family members materials and training to help parents to 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 parental involvement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the following:
  - The challenging State academic standards.
  - The State and local academic assessments.
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
  - How to monitor a child's progress.
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

***Describe/List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents and family members in helping their student's academic success.***

- Work with our affiliated Military and Family Life Counselor (MFLC) for parenting support and lessons
- Parent/Family Evening Events at the school
- School Website with 'Learning Links', online communication, texting, and Facebook page
- Title I Annual Parent Meeting on October 8, 2024
  - Title I Annual Parent Meeting includes information on curriculum and assessments
  - Curriculum and assessment information also available on the school and district websites
- Families are provided resources to support literacy at home
  - Arctic Light is using Title I funds to purchase *One School, One Book (readtothem.org)* and give every student their own copy of a book that the whole school will read
- Family Engagement Activities
  - Playworks: Sharing of Playworks games with families using the Junior Coach program as role models
  - Fall Festival: Event to invite families to play literacy and math games and engage in positive rapport with students and families
  - One School One Book: Emphasizing the importance of early reading strategies and the Science of Reading via a celebration of completing the same book as a school

## Building Capacity of School Staff

**Arctic Light Elementary School** will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

***Describe/List activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.***

- Teacher and staff participation at Arctic Light’s Family Events
- Arctic Light’s Family Events are led, planned and organized by school staff
- Parent participation side by side with school staff on the Title I team develops positive working relationships and ensures open communication
- Arctic Light is supporting school staff-including classroom teachers, instructional coach, tutors, and leadership-in building their capacity to effectively work with parents.
- Staff participating in District provided training and professional development
  - Closing the Loop school-home communication training with national speaker and author, Patricia Weinzapfel
- Staff participation at State and National Conferences (workshops and break out sessions include parent engagement components)
  - Alaska RTI/MTSS Effective Instruction Conference (January, 2025)
  - National ESEA Conference (February, 2025)
- Active use of effective school-level parent engagement strategies
  - Staff involvement and input into the design and implementation of Family Engagement activities and events
  - Staff communication with parents using multiple modalities including
    - ParentSquare
    - email
    - phone calls
    - in-person scheduled meetings

Arctic Light Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request.

**Describe/List actions the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.**

Arctic Light recognizes parents and families have unique barriers to supporting their child’s education which are addressed on an as needed basis such as:

- Ensuring school communication announcing upcoming family opportunities is provided in multiple ways to reach as many families as possible per their preference including: in print, email, text message to cell phone, phone calls, robo calls, electronic versions of newsletters
- Evaluations and surveys are reviewed; parent requests are taken into consideration for future activities/events

### Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional

**NOTE TO THE SCHOOL:** The school parent and family engagement plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA, as amended:

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each Title I, Part A school—

- may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section; and
- may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

***Describe how each discretionary items checked above will be implemented.***

## Adoption

This school parent and family member engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by Title I team meetings.

This plan was adopted by **Arctic Light Elementary K-5** on **October 11, 2024** and will be in effect for the period of **2024-2025**. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **October 11, 2024**.

Rachel Blackwell

*Printed Name of Principal*

*Rachel Blackwell*

October 11, 2024

*Signature of Principal*

*Date*