School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Independence Leadership Academy

Independence Leadership Academy 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, agreed on by such parents that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental and family engagement activities.

Independence Leadership Academy understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and 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

Independence Leadership Academy agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Independence Leadership Academy will conduct an annual meeting, to inform Parents about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

B. FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Independence Leadership Academy will offer a flexible number of engagement meetings at convenient times for families, (for which the school may use Title I funds to provide services that relate to parental involvement).

C. JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Independence Leadership Academy will 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 schoolwide program plan.

D. COMMUNICATION

Independence Leadership Academy will provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under Title I and communicate with them in the following ways:

- Flyers and Reminders will be sent home with students
- Parent/School Communication Folders sent home every Wednesday with notes, grades, etc.
- School weekly newsletter - Tiger Tales - sent home with students every Monday in correct language for the family
- Student assignments, information, grades, behavior reports, etc. texted through Class Dojo
- "Robo" calls sent to parents through district message center
- Phone calls by teachers, administrators, staff to communicate KUDOS and Uh-Ohs
- Parent Engagement Classes

E. COMPLAINT PROCESS

Independence Leadership Academy will submit any comments/concerns to the Federal Programs Department if the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents.

F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Independence Leadership Academy will jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated.

G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Independence Leadership Academy will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Parent Engagement Classes - Classes will be held several times during the year for parents to learn strategies to help their children increase academic achievement and make the best choices when faced with adversity and difficult situations.
- Test Talks to increase academic achievement of 3rd-6th grade students on LEAP 2025
- Participation in school activities such as Parent/Student Meet and Greet, Donuts with Dad, Grandparent's Day, Trunk or Treat, Making Memories with Mom, Literacy/Numeracy/Technology Night, Scholastic Book Fair, Louisiana Day, and Field Day

H. ACCESSIBILITY

Independence Leadership Academy in carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities, for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with 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 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.