

# POLICY

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### 2415.83 (Norman S. Weir School) TITLE I - SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

#### A. District Expectations

1. In accordance with the requirements of Title I, Section 1116(a)(2), ESEA, the Board of Education agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - b. The school district will work with its schools to ensure the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the Title I, Part A requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - c. The school district will incorporate this School Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its district plan.
  - d. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and,



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to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

- e. If the school district plan for Title I, Part A funds are not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan upon request by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).
- f. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I, Part A allocations greater than \$500,000.)
- g. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - (1) "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:
    - (a) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
    - (b) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;



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(c) 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

(d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

h. The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

### B. School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Required Components

1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parent and family engagement plan:  
(List actions)

a. Volunteer opportunities will be provided (annual educational arts festival, Disney presentation, assemblies).

b. Meet with parents for decisions and planning on how to use Title I School Parent Involvement funds. In addition, a stakeholder committee will be created.

2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under



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Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved:  
*(Describe when and where the annual meeting will be held.)*

The annual meeting will be held at Norman S. Weir (or virtually depending upon pandemic status) at the Back-to-School Night Presentation. A description and explanation of Norman S. Weir's curriculum will be provided as well as the forms of academic assessment utilized to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Parents will be given the opportunity to provide input on the parent involvement policies, the school parent compact and the development and implementation of the school-wide plan.

3. The school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement:  
*(Describe how flexibility is provided.)*

Parents will be surveyed early in the school year to determine which days/times works best for them. Meetings will be conducted monthly and offered in person in the evenings at the Norman S. Weir School, during the school day, in the mornings before school as well as virtually. Childcare will be provided by volunteer certified teachers and staff at all in-person meetings. Refreshments will be served.

4. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to



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improve student academic achievement and school performance:

*(List activities)*

- a. Timely information about programs will be disseminated through various methods - Google classroom announcements, school's webpage virtual backpack, robocalls and newsletter flyers.
  - b. Family and community engagement feedback will be requested regarding the level of involvement they have with the school- i.e. communication, forming family-school partnerships by surveying parents for special skills or hobbies they could share in classrooms or at special events.
  - c. Individual parent tours of school to describe and explain the curriculum and special programs held at the Norman S. Weir School.
5. The school will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
    - (1) The challenging, state academic standards;



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- (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;
  - (4) How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - (5) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.  
*(List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-state and out-of-state, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)*
    - (a) Assistance in understanding State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve achievement of their children will be provided during the annual meeting with school staff who will explain to the parents the content standards, assessments, and the data and its significance.
6. The school will provide parents of participating children, 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 practically possible.
- a. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training



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and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:

*(List activities)*

- (1) Parents will be provided with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement during the annual meeting.
- (2) School staff will discuss ways the parents can use grades and assessment data to monitor their student's progress and assist with their child's academic progress.

- b. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, student services personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, 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 to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

*(List activities)*

- (1) Utilizing flyers, newsletter articles, robocalls, virtual backpack and google classroom information will be communicated to parents regarding school and parent programs and meetings.
- (2) All newsletters, robocalls and major information will be distributed in both English and Spanish.



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- c. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:  
*(List activities)*
- (1) Norman S. Weir School will coordinate and integrate the parental involvement program with other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
  - (2) Parent Involvement is a key component at our school.
  - (3) School staff will, to the extent possible, coordinate efforts with other parent groups such as the PTO, through their involvement with the Home School Council.
- d. The school will take the following actions to ensure that Title I 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:  
*(List actions)*





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- (1) Providing relevant information verbally and in writing in a way that is understandable to parents.
  - (2) Providing information multiple languages to ensure that schools are able to communicate with parents who are not native English speakers.
  - (3) Provide translation/interpretive services to allow parents who cannot speak English to participate meaningfully in their child's education.
7. The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: [Such as: Head Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:  
(*List activities*)
  - a. N/A
8. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities



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to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies:

*(List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents will play.)*

- a. Principals will administer surveys to students, and results will be reviewed by the school-based Title I Committee.
  - b. School-Based Title I Committees will assess whether changes to existing parent and family engagement activities programs and activities are warranted. New programs and activities may be considered.
  - c. School-Based Committees will share their findings and recommendations with the districtwide Title I Committee, which in turn will use this information to inform their annual review of the districtwide Title I policy.
9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:  
*(List activities)*
- a. Invite parents/families and community members to actively participate in the development and review of school policies as part of school-level and/or district-level advisory committees.
  - b. Administer climate and culture surveys periodically.



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- c. Host public meetings, Q&A panels, and forum events to provide information to, and solicit input from, parents and other stakeholders
- 10. If the Annual School Plan (school-wide program plan) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the Annual School Plan (ASP) when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency:  
(List actions)
  - a. Google forms and flyers will be provided to parents for submitting comments on the schoolwide plan.
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement
  - 1. As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.  
(List actions)
    - a. The written school parent involvement policy will be distributed and agreed upon by parents describing how the school will implement the requirements of parental involvement.
    - b. Compact will be discussed at parent teacher conferences as it relates to the individual child's achievement.



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- c. Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress, reasonable access to staff and opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities.
- D. Discretionary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components
  - 1. The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 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:
    - a. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
    - b. Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
    - c. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
    - d. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
    - e. In order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education,



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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.

- f. Adopt and implement model approaches to improve parent and family engagement.
- g. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- h. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- i. Provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section as parents may request:  
(List actions)
  - (1) Parental workshops will be provided with various topics (parent literacy night, how to log on to google classroom) to enhance the involvement of other parents.
  - (2) Virtual parent meetings and conferences will be offered to those parents who are unable to attend in-person.

### E. Accessibility

- 1. In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of



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children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand:

- (1) Norman S. Weir School provides opportunities for the participation of all parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents with migratory students.
- (2) Annual invitations to attend the annual Title I meeting will go out in a robocall, flyer and in newsletters, inviting all parents.
- (3) These Robo calls, flyers and newsletters are released in both English and Spanish.
- (4) The Norman S. Weir School facility where the Title I parent meetings will be held is handicapped accessible.
- (5) Childcare and Spanish translation will be provided during these meetings.

### F. Adoption

1. This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.
2. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of the school year. The school district will distribute this Policy to all



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parents of participating Title I children on or before  
October 1 of each school year.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section  
1116(a)(2)

Adopted: 18 October 2023

