

POLICY

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2415.88 (Newcomers High 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. A parent survey will be conducted. It will include school climate/culture, suggestions on improving communication, parents' skills and vocations. This will survey in Spanish will be given out in the first 2 weeks of school.

b. Freshman Orientation/Upper grade parent meetings will be held in August.

c. Parents will be in the Annual School Plan committee

2. The school will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating



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children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under 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.)

Our Annual School Plan will meet at the school building and have several dates & times in September to accommodate our working parents.

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.)

Flexibility will be employed by providing an appointment list of times for parents to choose from to ensure that every last parent has had an opportunity to meet with the principal and receive the pertinent information for how to access parent portal, ensure up-to-date parent email/phone/address on how they can best be contacted and have received proper training on how to access all relevant information over a parent google classroom, information on how to receive literacy or English classes, or any training or workshops should the parent be interested, and how to find the resources available and periodically offered to them by the Title I funded activities offered to the community at large.

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 improve student academic achievement and school performance:



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(List activities)

- a. Parent cell phone/address will be obtained upon parent/student orientation where Survey will be given out via link over cell phone. (Survey will involve concerns, survival issues, breaking stigma of need for routine mental healthcare, **timeline will last the first two weeks of school
 - b. Monthly PTO meetings will include but not be limited to the concerns that are coming up for the parents.
 - c. Guest speaker on Immigration issues
 - d. Networking parent meeting on their various skills
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;
 - (2) The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
 - (3) The requirements of Title I, Part A;



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- (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) Inform in Spanish, during recorded PTO over google classroom (for later access by parent): on what free websites can help your child with academics
 - (b) Inform in Spanish, during recorded PTO over google classroom (for later access by parent): thoroughly explaining to parents the preparation for state assessments (marathons, proper sleep, eat, and exercise)
 - (c) Provide in-depth training for teachers on making thinking visible in order to better assess the student's cognitive needs and thought patterns. This will allow the teachers to better diagnose redirection and intervention.
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.



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- 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 and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement, by:
(List activities)
 - (1) Encouraging Flyers on Adult ESL day/night classes in our building
 - (2) Guidance Counselor will give a workshop on credits, good study habits, and parent's role on assisting students with their Homework and class work via free websites/available resources in Spanish that help explain the material in depth on the child's own time at home
 - (3) Each teacher will have a scheduled time (twice a month) to communicate/meet with parents regarding the welfare of their child's holistic performance and needs
- 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)



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- (1) Fieldtrips that will give the parents opportunities to attend financial empowerment workshops
 - (2) Guest Speakers regarding the following topics such as but not limited to, Motivation/Inspiration, addressing mental health as a matter of routine/regular medical healthcare, addressing stress with physical education, walks through parks, mindfulness, Substance Awareness, empowering communities by learning CPR.
 - (3) Monthly PTO meetings
- 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) Monthly PTOs & establishing a central google classroom for all parents to consult with the free services and resources available to them.
 - (2) Flyers encouraging them to receive free valuable resources (food, clothing, eyeglasses) at the closest Community Service Schools



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- (3) Encourage open communication with our school counselor for homes that are in need of Perform care services
 - 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)
 - (1) Mailing/Backpack letters
 - (2) Periodic Robocalls/information on our school website
 - (3) Parent Portals tutoring of infinite campus and direct call from the principal (cell) or secretary (office)
- 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. Steering Committee to help find a Parent member for Annual School Plan
 - b. Monthly PTO meetings



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- c. Survey on Parents' Skills and vocation - Purpose, to network among themselves
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 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. Evaluation will be conducted via google form over a disseminated link to parent cell phones
 - b. Guidance Counselor will identify any parents who did not conduct the survey
 - c. A callback committee will be established to disseminate the call list during their school supervision period where they help with and perform school operational tasks.



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9. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
(List activities)
 - a. A mid-year survey will be additionally conducted for further data and review of school improvement
 - b. All workshops, activities, meetings, and dissemination of community and parent workshops will have a sign in and agenda for record keeping purposes at which time parents will always have the opportunity to make suggestions or bring concerns/issues to light either electronically or via paper/pen suggestion box at their discretion.
 - c. An end-of-year survey will be additionally conducted for further data and review of school improvement
 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. Retrieved data (parent concerns/arising issues) will be obtained via: parent Google classroom communication
 - b. PTO meetings/ suggestion box/surveys/phone calls
 - c. Beginning, middle and end of year surveys
- C. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement



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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. Via signed contract
 - b. Via cell phone link
 - c. Via Google Classroom specifically for parent engagement
- 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.



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- 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, 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) Financial literacy and empowerment conference (including how to gauge the balance of students as young employees to help the family financially vs students studying



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harder and avoiding traveling for too long so as to miss too many school days. Learning how to purchase travel without within the allotted winter and spring breaks.

- (2) Immigration issues guest speaker with valuable resources conference
- (3) Community outreach & volunteer center spokesperson communicating available resources and state funded food/pantry giveaways and any other available services to parents and families in need

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 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:
(List actions)
 - a. providing the information/resources on google classroom for parents published in Spanish
 - b. teaching parents how to download necessary translation (oral/written) apps on their cell phones
 - c. providing robocalls/emails in Spanish



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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 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

