

Governor Mifflin School District Title I Local Education Agency
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2025-2026

All Local Education Agencies (LEA) receiving Title I funds are required under Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the LEA. The ESSA states that the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy must be jointly developed with parents and family members, incorporated into the LEA plan (Consolidated Application), and distributed to parents of participating children in a format and language that parents can understand. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

The policy states how the LEA involves parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Plan (Title I Application) (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)*).

- **How does your LEA involve parents and family members in the development of the Consolidated Application?**

In order to ensure the continuous engagement of parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Plan and with the school support and improvement process, the district shall establish meaningful, ongoing two-way communication between the district, staff, and parents and family members; communicate with parents and family members about the plan and seek their input and participation through the use of newsletters, the district website, email, telephone, parent and teacher conferences, and home visits, if needed; train personnel on how to collaborate effectively with parents and family members with diverse backgrounds that may impede their participation, such as limited literacy or language difficulty; analyze and share the results of the Title I Parent/Family Survey; post school performance data on the district's website; distribute and discuss the School-Parent and Family Compact; host various parent nights at each school building with a Title I program.

At those various parent nights/meetings, which will be held at a convenient time, the district will explain the goals and purposes of Title I programs and will inform parents and family members of their rights to be involved. In addition, parents and family members will be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operations and evaluation of the program. Parents and family members shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. Parents and family members also will be asked for input on how Title I funds should be spent.

The policy states how the LEA involves parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)*).

- **How does your LEA involve parents and family members in school review and improvement?**

At annual Title I meetings, parents and family members will be provided with timely information about programs provided under Title I, description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the academic standards, and the opportunity to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.

Through discussions at the annual Title I meeting and several PTO meetings, as well as through surveys, parents and family members will be involved in an organized, ongoing and timely way in planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and the joint development of the Title I Plan.

The policy states how the LEA provides technical assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(B)*).

- **How does your LEA provide technical assistance to schools?**

The district shall provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve academic achievement and school performance through

- Providing assistance to parents and family members in understanding such topics as the academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of parents and family involvement, how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.
- Providing materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve academic achievement and to foster parent and family engagement such as:

- Scheduling trainings in different locations on a variety of topics including how to support their child in school, literacy, school safety, cultural diversity, and conflict resolution.
- Using technology, including education about the harms of copyright piracy, as appropriate.
- Providing information, resources and materials in a user friendly format.
- Providing, as requested by a parent or family member, other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities
 - Educating teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders and staff, with the assistance of parents and family members, on the value and usefulness of parents and family members, on the value and usefulness of contributions of parents and family members and in how to reach out to communicate with, and work with them as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent and family programs, and build ties between parents and family members and the school.

The policy states how the LEA will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other federal, State, and local laws and programs (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(C)*).

- **How does your LEA coordinate with other federal, State and local laws and programs?**

To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinating and integrating Title I parents and family involvement efforts and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children.

The policy states how the LEA conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools, including identifying

- barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, 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 needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii)*).

- **How does your LEA evaluate the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy?**

The district and its Title I schools will engage the PTA/PTO to actively seek out and involve parents and family members through regular updates, information sessions and assistance with the identification of effective communication strategies. The district will establish a district-wide parents and family advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I programs.

The district shall coordinate and integrate Title I parent and family engagement strategies with other parent and family engagement strategies required by federal, state, and local laws by:

- Involving district and program representatives to assist in identifying specific parent and family member needs.
- Sharing data from other programs to assist in developing initiatives to advance academic achievement and school improvements.

The district shall conduct, with meaningful participation of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy in improving the academic quality of all district schools with a title I program.

The evaluations shall identify.

- Barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, 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 needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers.
- Strategies to support successful school and parent and family interactions.
- A parent and family member and teacher survey designed to collect data on school level and district-wide parent and family engagement outcomes.
- Documentation of parent and family member input regarding Title I programs and activities from throughout the year.
- A parent and family member advisory council comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents and family members to adequately represent the needs of the district's Title I population.

The policy states how the LEA will use the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family involvement, and revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(E)*).

- **Once the evaluation is complete, how will your LEA use the findings to design evidence-based strategies?**

The district shall leverage annual evaluation data to craft targeted strategies (grounded in evidence) that enhance parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the district's Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

The policy states how the LEA involves parents and family members in the activities of the school, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members to adequately represent the needs to the population; revising; and reviewing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (*ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(F)*).

- **Are there any additional ways the LEA involves parents and family members, like a Parent Advisory Council (PAC)?**

The district shall use the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and engage parents and families in school activities through various means, including the establishment and maintenance of PTOs designed to represent a diverse range of parent perspectives and inform policy revisions and review.

Use of Funds

Please note: this section only needs to be included in the policy of the LEA receives \$500,00 and more. For all other LEAs this section can be deleted.

- **For those LEAs that receive \$500,000 and more in Title I funds, please choose one of the following and describe how it is carried out at the LEA.**

Because the Governor Mifflin School District receives \$500,000 or more in Title I funds, the district shall reserve at least one percent (1%) of its Title I funds to assist schools in conducting parents and family engagement activities. Parents and family members shall be involved in the decisions regarding how the Title I reserved funds are used for parent and family engagement activities.

The district shall use the Title I reserved funds to conduct activities and strategies consistent with this policy, including:

- 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. *1116(3)(D)(iii)*.
- Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the district determined are appropriate and consistent with this policy. (*ESSA, section 1116(3)(D)(v)*).

If the LEA reserves \$500,000 or more and are required to set aside 1%, funds shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the LEA's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than one of the following:

Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for LEA 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 (*ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(i)*).

Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school. (*ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(ii)*).

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 (*ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iii)*).

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 (*ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iv)*).

Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the LEA determines are appropriate and consistent with the LEA's Parent and Family Engagement Policy (*ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(v)*).