

Kosciusko Junior High School

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2025–2026 School Year

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In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Kosciusko School District receives Title I, Part A funds and must jointly develop, agree upon, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy as required by Section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This policy establishes the school’s expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement various parent and family engagement activities. It is incorporated into the school’s plan submitted to the district. Kosciusko School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

1. Involve Parents:

- In an organized, ongoing, and timely way, involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan.

2. Update Policy Periodically:

- Periodically update the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. Distribute the policy to parents of participating children and make it available to the local community.

3. Provide Full Participation Opportunities:

- Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. This includes providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format, and in a language parents understand, where practicable.

4. Submit Parent Comments:

- If the Schoolwide Program Plan under Section 1114(b) of ESSA is not satisfactory to parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

5. Definition of Parent and Family Engagement:

- Carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with the statutory definition of parent and family engagement. This includes regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring that:
 - Parents play an integral role in assisting their children’s learning.
 - Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children’s education at school.
 - Parents are full partners in their children’s education and are included in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in their children’s education.
 - Other activities described in Section 1116 of ESSA are carried out.

I. School Policy Involvement

A. Jointly Developed

Kosciusko Junior High School believes that strong, ongoing communication and collaboration among parents, students, and educators are key to student growth and success. This Parent and Family Engagement Plan is jointly developed each year by parents, teachers, administrators, and community partners through surveys, advisory council meetings, Title I planning sessions, and PTA involvement. Parent and family feedback is reviewed annually, and the plan is updated to reflect the needs and priorities of junior high students and their families.

B. Annual Title I Meeting

An Annual Title I Meeting will be held to inform families of the school’s Title I program, its benefits, and how parents can be involved. The meeting will include information on:

- The purpose of the Title I program
- The Schoolwide Plan and academic goals
- The Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- The School-Parent Compact and opportunities for collaboration

To accommodate working families, sessions will be offered at multiple times (morning, afternoon, and evening). Materials will be provided in home languages when feasible. Additional meetings throughout the year will provide updates and gather continued parent feedback.

II. Communications

Kosciusko Junior High School will maintain open, two-way communication to ensure parents stay informed and engaged in their child’s middle school experience. Information about academics, activities, and Title I programs will be shared through:

- Newsletters and printed flyers
- School Status messages, texts, and email updates
- School website and social media platforms
- Parent-teacher conferences and open houses
- Grade-level parent information nights

All information will be provided in clear, understandable formats, and when feasible, in the home language of parents. Feedback will be gathered regularly to improve communication systems and address family needs.

III. Shared Responsibility for High Student Academic Achievement

A. School-Parent Compact

Kosciusko Junior High School will maintain a School-Parent Compact that outlines how the school, parents, and students will share the responsibility for academic achievement and build partnerships that support learning.

Kosciusko School District Responsibilities:

- Provide parents with regular reports on their child's progress.
- Offer high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- Communicate high expectations for every student.
- Enforce rules fairly and involve students in creating a caring learning environment.
- Maintain regular, meaningful two-way communication with families in a language they understand.
- Offer Parent-Teacher conferences annually.
- Provide reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's school and activities.
- Provide opportunities to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and positive use of extracurricular time.

Student Responsibilities:

- Come to class prepared with all necessary materials.
- Complete all assignments on time.
- Participate in all class activities.
- Follow all rules and regulations.
- Respect other students, teachers, and their property.
- Dress according to school policy.
- Conduct myself properly at school-sponsored events.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

- Maintain regular contact with my child's teacher(s).
- Emphasize the importance of education.
- Monitor my child's social media accounts.
- Participate in school activities.
- Ensure my child has the necessary instructional supplies.
- Report all absences and provide appropriate documentation.
- Ensure my child arrives at school on time each day.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- Invite parents/guardians to participate in school functions.
- Be accessible to all parents/guardians.
- Keep an open line of communication with students, parents/guardians, and the community.
- Keep students and parents/guardians informed of the student's progress.

The compact will be reviewed and revised each year based on parent and student feedback.

IV. Reservation of Funds

Kosciusko School District will reserve 1% of Title I, Part A funds to support parent and family engagement efforts. Kosciusko Junior High School will involve parents in deciding how these funds should be used through parent surveys, advisory councils, and Title I meetings. Funds may be used for:

- Workshops and informational sessions on topics such as study skills, adolescent development, and academic planning
- Educational resources and take-home learning materials
- Parent-teacher communication tools and family engagement activities
- Training for parents and teachers to strengthen partnerships

V. Coordination of Services

Kosciusko Junior High School will coordinate with local programs and agencies to ensure students and families receive well-rounded support. Partnerships include:

- Kosciusko Upper Elementary to ease the transition for incoming sixth-grade students
- Kosciusko High School to prepare eighth-grade students for the transition to high school
- Collaboration with community organizations, faith-based partners, and Attala County agencies to connect families with available services and resources

These partnerships help families navigate academic, social, and community systems that support student achievement.

VI. Building Capacity of Parents

Kosciusko Junior High School will empower parents to be active participants in their child's education by providing training, tools, and resources throughout the year. Workshops and informational events will address:

- Understanding curriculum, grading, and academic expectations
- Strategies for supporting adolescents with organization and motivation
- Internet safety
- Preparing for state assessments and future academic planning
- Supporting social-emotional development during middle school years

Materials will be available in print and digital formats. When feasible, resources will be translated into parents' home languages to ensure accessibility.

VII. Building Capacity of School Staff

Kosciusko Junior High School will continue to develop teachers' and staff members' capacity to build strong, positive relationships with families as equal partners in education. Professional development will focus on:

- Effective communication and outreach practices
- Recognizing and valuing parent input
- Cultural sensitivity and inclusivity
- Engaging parents in shared goal-setting for students

Parent feedback collected through PTA and advisory meetings will guide future professional learning to strengthen family-school collaboration.

VIII. Additional Support

Kosciusko Junior High School will provide additional support to families by responding promptly to parent requests for information, assistance, or specific training opportunities. Family engagement activities will be offered at flexible times—morning, afternoon, and evening—to accommodate all families. Examples of additional support include:

- Providing academic resource guides and tutorials
- Hosting family learning nights on homework and organization
- Offering small-group parent sessions based on expressed needs

All efforts will aim to remove barriers and create welcoming, accessible opportunities for every family.

IX. Annual Evaluation and Monitoring

Each year, Kosciusko Junior High School will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Data collected will include:

- Parent and student surveys
- Attendance and participation rates at meetings and events
- Feedback forms and advisory input
- Student academic and attendance data

The evaluation will identify barriers to participation, such as scheduling, communication, or accessibility, and develop solutions to address them. Findings will be shared with parents, staff, and stakeholders, and the plan will be revised annually based on results to continuously strengthen family engagement practices.

X. Additional Note

Kosciusko Junior High School is committed to ensuring that all families—regardless of language, disability, economic status, or background—are welcomed and able to participate in every aspect of school life. No student shall be admitted to or excluded from any federally assisted educational program based on surname or language-minority status. Translation, interpretation, and reasonable accommodations will be provided when feasible to support inclusive participation. The school strives to create a welcoming and respectful environment where every family feels valued as a partner in their child's education and future success.