Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Garfield Elementary
School Year 2025-26
Revision Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2025
Open House: Tuesday, August 19, 2025

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Garfield Elementary 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 that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement several specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Garfield Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve families, 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 school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of families and the school, distribute it to the families of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language families understand.
- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

A. families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
A. families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
A. 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; and
A. other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

Description of how the school will implement required school parent and family engagement policy components:

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Garfield Elementary will take the following actions to involve families in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by families, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

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Families will be invited to monthly parent engagement events. They will have the chance to review and give feedback on our parent engagement policy as well as our Family Nights. All families will be invited to family nights throughout the school year. All families will be invited to be a part of our PTO and help plan activities for our students and their families.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all families of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the families' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Garfield Elementary School will conduct two (2) Title 1 Meetings. The first organized district wide on August 19, 2025 from 3:00 to 5:00PM. Garfield will also hold another school wide Title I meeting in September of 2025. We will inform parents of our Title 1 programming and update them on state and district testing requirements. Families will also participate in make-it-take-it activities.

COMMUNICATIONS

Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, childcare or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:
- We have many ways that we communicate with our Garfield families. We send home emails, class Dojo, post to our website and provide parents with a monthly newsletter. Families are also informed through text messages and robotic calls.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

LCS Parent Promise will be sent home in August and September of 2025. This includes a student, parent, and staff pledge.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Garfield Elementary School will take the following actions to involve the families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

Title I Presentation on August 19, 2025 and September 4, 2025.

Parents can email Mr. Monteleone and Ms. Akers anytime with input as well as talk with us before or after school.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Garfield Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs 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 families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Guiding Point and District Counseling is offered here to all students with parental consent. Our district offers wrap around services to families in need. Those wrap around services include Men Of Courage Mentoring and The Incredible Years (Pre-School). Boys and Girls Club after school program is offered to all of our Garfield students. Pre-School is also offered here.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Garfield Elementary School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

Garfield Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:

We will support parents through various clubs, family breakfasts, evening events, weekly parent emails, and our monthly newsletters.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENT

The school parent and family engagement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its families, chooses to undertake to build families' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESSA. Please indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) school parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:

We at Garfield Elementary School also do the following:

- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and families who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.