Stevan Dohanos Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Stevan Dohanos Elementary
School Year 2025-2026
Wednesday, August 19, 2025

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Stevan Dohoanos 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).

The Stevan Dohanos 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

Stevan Dohanos 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.

Stevan Dohanos will hold an annual family advisory meeting to revise the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and Schoolwide plan. Parents are encouraged to participate in our Building Leadership Team (BLT) meetings, where Title I goals and strategies are discussed. Provide opportunities for families to provide suggestions throughout the year.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Stevan Dohanos Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, 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.

Host the annual Title I meeting during Open House. Present information on Title I services, introduce Title I staff, academic goals and the School-Parent Compact and host Family Engagement nights.

COMMUNICATIONS

Stevan Dohanos 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:

Monthly Smores Newsletter and weekly notifications through Class Dojo and social media posts. Provide information in multiple languages and formats. Offer flexible meeting times such as morning and/or after school. Arrange Home Visits per need.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Stevan Dohanos 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.

Review, discuss and ongoing development of the school-parent compact during our annual Title I meeting. Share academic data during parent/teacher conferences. Provide academic opportunities after school.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Stevan Dohanos 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:

Opportunities during BLT, PTO collaboration and Family Engagement events.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Stevan Dohanos 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:

Partnering with our preschool program to support kindergarten readiness and smooth transitions. Hosting family resource events including early literacy agencies and local community organizations.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Stevan Dohanos 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:

Facilitating professional learning and/or discussing effective family engagement, cultural responsiveness, and two-way communication. Reviewing and sharing data on how to use communication tools such as Class Dojo effectively and consistently. Inviting families to share cultural traditions, students strengths and expectations with staff. Providing staff with strategies for conducting productive family-teacher conferences and offering them the opportunity to join the admin and wellness team on home visits.

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

Including our district's wellness coaches, in house counselors, Ohio Guidestone counselors for supports such as behavior support. Offer parent resources such as manipulatives, books and learning at home guides Provide flexible hours for parents to meet with admin and/or staff.

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 Stevan Dohanos 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.