Tom Benson School Family Engagement Policy

NOTE: In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (family engagement policy).

Schools, in consultation with parents, may use the sample template below as a framework for the information to be included in their family engagement policy. ***Schools are not required to follow this sample template or framework. If they establish the school's expectations for family engagement and include all of the components listed under "Description of How a School Will Implement Required School Family engagement Policy Components" they will have incorporated the information that section 1118 requires be in the school family engagement policy****. Schools, in consultation with parents, are encouraged to include other relevant and agreed upon activities and actions that will support effective family engagement and strengthen student academic achievement.*

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PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

NOTE: There is no required format for written expectations; this is a sample of what might be included.

Tom Benson School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1118, the school will work to ensure that the required school level family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118 of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA. **(See Enclosure)**

- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in language parents understand.

- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (school district).

- The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of family and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

- The school will provide other reasonable support for family engagement activities under section 1118 of the ESEA as the parents may request.

- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of family engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

  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;

  (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;

  (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The School Family Engagement Policy must include a description of how the district will implement or accomplish each of the following components. *[Section 1118, ESEA.]* There is no required format for these descriptions. However, regardless of the format the district chooses to use, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy statutory requirements.

1. The **Tom Benson School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school family engagement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA:

   - Print flyers in multiple languages to inform parents of events and activities at school
   - Host parent teacher conferences
   - Publicize events on the school website
   - Publicize parent involvement during fall open house
   - Create multiple opportunities for anonymous parent feedback

2. The **Tom Benson School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

   - Hosting a parent engagement meeting during other family and community outreach events
   - Hosting meetings for the parental involvement

3. The **Tom Benson School** will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional family engagement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend, by:

   - Distributing a flier to families
   - Creating a notice on the school website and calendar

4. The **Tom Benson School** will provide parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation

of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:

- Hosting a back to school night at the beginning of the school year.
- Parent/teacher conferences throughout the school year
- Parent and teacher instructional communications
- Utilization of Google Classroom for at home and in class needs

5. **Tom Benson School** will, at the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:

   - Responding to parent requests and scheduling a time to discuss concerns or suggestions
   - Parents are invited to participate in ABIT, special education, 504, and discipline meetings

6. **Tom Benson School** will provide each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:

   - In the fall of 2025, the 2024/2025 LEAP overall student performance reports were sent home.

7. **Tom Benson School** will take the following actions to provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002) by:

   - Each nine weeks, a letter will be distributed to qualifying classes.

8. **Tom Benson School** will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions as described below through parent teacher conferences, class newsletters, school website, and Google Classroom

   - The state's academic content standards
   - The state and local academic assessments
   - How to monitor their child's progress
   - How to work with educators
   - Hosting a back to school night at the beginning of the school year
   - Granting permission for parents and teachers to meet when it is requested.

9. **Tom Benson School** will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as resources for literacy/math and using technology, as appropriate, to foster family engagement, by:

    - Hosting monthly STEAM nights

10. **Tom Benson School** will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals 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 implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

    - Professional development
    - Administrative coaching

11. **Tom Benson School** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate family engagement programs and activities with public preschool, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

    - Family STEAM Night
    - Family Math and Science Nights

12. The **Tom Benson School** will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to 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:

    - Information communicated through fliers with translations
    - Class Dojo
    - School website
    - School wide parent notification via JCampus

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The School 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 listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- Arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents who are unable to attend conferences at school in order to maximize family engagement and participation in their children's education;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving family engagement;
- Establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in family engagement activities.

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PART IV. ADOPTION

This School Family engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I.

This policy was adopted by the **Tom Benson School** and will be in effect for the period of at least one semester, if not for the entire school year. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before "Back To School Night".

Sommer Stamp

(Signature of Authorized Official)

10/15/2025

(Date)