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SOUTHMORELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Title: Title I Parent and Family Engagement (LEA Policy)
Status: Active Compliance Framework
Reference: ESSA Section 1116; PDE Federal Programs Guidance

I. Purpose & Core District Goals

The Southmoreland School District knows that a child's education is a growth partnership between the school and the family. The district will plan and run all Title I programs, activities, and procedures with meaningful input from families.

The specific targets of our Title I Remedial Reading program are to:

1. Help elementary students build strong, basic reading skills.
2. Meet grade-level literacy benchmarks in regular classrooms.
3. Use data from pre-tests and post-tests to measure and guide advanced literacy growth.

II. Joint Policy Development & Annual Planning

The district will not write this policy alone. It will be built, reviewed, and updated every year with help from parents and family members.

- Joint Annual Reviews: The district will host an annual Title I planning meeting. Parents will help review student progress data and update this policy document.
- Allocation of Funds: Parents will help decide how to spend the district's Title I family engagement funds on helpful tools.
- Continuous Feedback Collection: The district will keep the online [Title I Parent Engagement QR Survey](#) active all year. The feedback collected will help improve teaching and future policies.
- Compliance Documentation: To meet PDE standards, all schools must keep official agendas and sign-in sheets for these meetings.

III. Building Capacity for School and Home Partnerships

To make sure parents feel confident helping their children learn, the [Southmoreland Curriculum and Instruction Department](#) will provide clear support:

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- Digital Training Resources: The district will share the Annual Title I Federal Programs Parent Presentation Video online. This video teaches parents about Title I rules and their rights as partners.
- Literacy Tools for Home: Teachers will share reading activities and materials during building meetings. Families can use these tools at home to help elementary students who need extra reading support.
- Understanding Assessments: The district will give parents clear tools to understand state standards and test scores. Staff will use diagnostic data to target individual student needs.

IV. School-Parent Communications, Compacts & Transparency

The Southmoreland School District values absolute transparency and open communication with families.

Annual Policy Distribution

The district will distribute this policy and school-level plans to all parents of participating children annually. It will be shared in a clear format and in languages that parents can easily read and understand.

School-Parent Compacts

Each Title I school in the district will use a School-Parent Compact. This compact is an agreement that lists the shared responsibilities of staff, parents, and students. It outlines exactly how they will work together to hit grade-level reading goals.

Parents Right-to-Know Teacher Qualifications

Parents have the right to request information about their child's teachers. Upon request, the district will quickly verify:

1. If the teacher has met Pennsylvania state certification rules for their grade and subject.
2. If the teacher is working under an emergency certificate.
3. The college major and graduate degrees held by the teacher.

Testing and Assessment Information

The district will provide clear details regarding all required student tests, including:

- The subject matter being tested.
- The purpose of the test.
- Official state policies regarding testing and parent opt-out procedures.

Regular Progress Reporting

To keep families fully informed, the district commits to the following regular reporting schedule:

- Report Cards: Distributed to families quarterly.
- Progress Reports: Sent home quarterly between report card cycles.

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- Staff Access: Parents will have reasonable access to staff through in-person meetings, phone calls, or digital conferences to discuss remedial reading milestones.

V. Accessibility and Inclusion

The Southmoreland School District ensures that all family engagement opportunities are open to everyone. The district will provide full accommodations for parents with disabilities, parents with limited English proficiency, and migratory families. Information, announcements, and school reports will always be shared in easy-to-understand formats.

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