



James Gettys Elementary School

Gettysburg Area School District

Mr. Ted Wells
Principal

2026-2027

JAMES GETTYS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Title I Parent and Family Engagement section of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 1116(b) requires each Title I school to develop a written parent and family engagement policy that describes the means for carrying out the requirements of Section 1116. The school must ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities are sent to the parents of Title I children in a format and in a language the parents can understand.

The policy must be:

- ☐ developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents and family members of Title I children;
- ☐ written in an understandable format and provided in a language parents can understand; ☐ distributed to all parents and family members of Title I children;
- ☐ made available to the local community; and
- ☐ updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents, family members and the school.

The policy describes how parents and family members will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy (*ESSA, Section 1116(b)(1)*).

- ★ *Parent input is an important component of our Parent Involvement Policy. A parent survey will be available online twice a year. Mid-year data can be shared with parents through parent conferences, emails or parent letters.*
- ★ *James Gettys Elementary School recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family working in partnership. All parents are invited to "Back to School Night" early in the school year. This evening will inform parents of the curriculum, types of assessments used to monitor progress, and the expected proficiency levels.*
- ★ *All parents are strongly urged to attend at least one parent teacher conference per year for grades K-5. Their child's progress will be shared at these conferences. Both Fall and Spring Parent conferences are offered during day hours as well as evening hours so that parents are able to attend regardless of work schedules.*
- ★ *The school will keep parents informed of their rights and responsibilities as educational partners. Whole school and individual student achievement will be shared with parents in a concise and easy to understand manner. Progress will be clearly communicated through ongoing parent-teacher dialogue. If parents require transportation assistance in order to attend school functions, the school may provide transportation as deemed necessary.*
- ★ *Information about the Title I program will be shared with parents and family members through the school website, school newsletters, and other regular communications. Families*

will also receive information during the annual Title I meeting and parent events throughout the school year.

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- ★ *All parents are strongly urged to attend at least one parent teacher conference per year for grades K-5. Their child's progress will be shared at these conferences. Parent conferences are offered during day hours as well as evening hours so that parents are able to attend regardless of work schedules.*
- ★ *A committee involving teachers, parents, and administration will be formed at the beginning of each year. Parents will be given the opportunity to give input on the schoolwide Title 1 Plan.*
- ★ *The School will involve parents and family members in the development of the school-parent compact via surveys. A parent survey will be available online twice a year. Mid-year data can be shared with parents through parent conferences, emails or parent letters.*
- ★ *The school will keep parents informed of their rights and responsibilities as educational partners. Whole school and individual student achievement will be shared with parents in a concise and easy to understand manner. Progress will be clearly communicated through ongoing parent-teacher dialogue. If parents require transportation assistance in order to attend school functions, the school may provide transportation as deemed necessary.*
- ★ *If students qualify for extra support under Title 1 guidelines, their parents will be notified and opportunities will be provided to familiarize them with these services. Parents are also sent letters informing them of their child's intervention needs through email or letter. All parents are invited to PTO meetings throughout the year, family nights, planning sessions and other curricular related programs that are provided at the school.*
- ★ *James Gettys Elementary routinely provides training materials to support parents and family members in assisting learning in the home. Throughout the school year, JGES offers scheduled family engagement events where parents and families members can receive in-person training and support materials. In addition, the JGES school newsletter offers monthly information including strategies and resources for parents and families.*
- ★ *A committee involving teachers, parents, and administration will be formed at the beginning of each year. Parents will be given the opportunity to give input on the schoolwide Title I Plan.*
- ★ *The principal meets annually with administrators from Head Start and other local preschool programs to coordinate transition activities, share information, and strengthen collaboration. Ongoing communication with federal, state, and local early childhood partners helps ensure a smooth transition to kindergarten and supports student readiness for school.*
- ★ *All school communications and important documents are provided in both English and Spanish. Translation and interpretation services through Lexikeet are also available for families who speak other languages, ensuring that all parents receive information in a language they can understand.*
- ★ *The school actively includes parents and family members of English Learners by providing*

translated communications, interpreter services for meetings and conferences, and meaningful opportunities to participate in school events and decision-making. Staff work collaboratively with families to ensure they have access to the information and resources needed to support their child's academic success.

