

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School Title I School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2026-2027

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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 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)*).

1. How will the school involve parents and family members in the development of the parent and family engagement policy?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) jointly develops, reviews, and updates the Parent and Family Engagement Policy annually in collaboration with parents and families. Input is gathered through multiple opportunities, including Fall and Spring Title I Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings, building level stakeholder and focus sessions, parent teacher conferences, and an annual family survey. Draft revisions are shared in plain, family-friendly language and made available for parent review and comment prior to finalization.

Feedback collected during Spring 2026 stakeholder engagement sessions indicated that families value flexible meeting formats, prefer paper-based communication, and want practical resources to support reading, mathematics, and homework at home. This feedback was reviewed with school leadership and used to guide revisions to WSES parent and family engagement activities and implementation practices.

The policy states that the school will convene annual meetings will be held at a convenient time

- which all parents and family members of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend;
- to inform parents of their schools' participation as a Title I school; and
- to explain the requirements and the rights for parents to be involved (*ESSA, Section 1116(c)(1)*).

2. How will the school meet with parents and family members annually?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) convenes annual Title I meetings in both the Fall and Spring to inform families about Title I participation, program requirements, available services, and parent and family rights. To maximize accessibility and participation, multiple sessions are offered at varied times, including morning, afternoon, and after-school options, with both in-person and virtual formats available.

The use of flexible scheduling and multiple meeting options is a direct response to parent feedback identifying work schedules as a primary barrier to participation and reflects the school's ongoing commitment to reducing obstacles to family engagement.

The policy states that the school will offer a flexible number of meetings in the morning and/or the *evening* (ESSA, Section 1116(c)(2)).

3. What meetings will be held at the school?

In addition to annual Title I Parent Advisory Council meetings, Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) provides multiple school-based opportunities for parent and family engagement, including curriculum nights and family learning events, scheduled parent-teacher conferences, and individualized meetings upon request to discuss student progress, services, and supports.

These meetings offer structured, ongoing opportunities for parents to participate in planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs and parent and family engagement activities.

Parent-teacher conferences, identified by families as the most meaningful engagement opportunity, are emphasized as a key forum for individualized discussion of student progress, instructional strategies, and next steps to support learning.

The policy states that the school will involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent and family engagement program (ESSA, Section 1116(c)(3)).

The policy describes how the school will provide parents of participating children with timely information about the Title I program (ESSA, Section 1116(c)(4)(A)).

4. How will the school inform parents and family members about the Title I program?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) provides timely and ongoing information about Title I through multiple communication methods, including school and district websites, email, printed notices sent home, and information shared during Parent Advisory Council meetings and parent teacher conferences.

Families of participating students receive direct notification regarding Title I eligibility, available services, and student progress.

In response to parent feedback indicating a preference for paper-based communication and recognizing varied levels of internet access, WNIS prioritizes printed notices and direct communication with families, while continuing to use digital methods to ensure information is accessible through multiple formats.

The policy describes how the school will provide parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards (*ESSA, Section 1116(c)(4)(B)*).

5. How will the school explain the curriculum, state standards, and assessments?

During Parent Advisory Council meetings, curriculum nights, and parent-teacher conferences, Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) staff provide plain-language explanations of the Pennsylvania Academic Standards, the school's core curriculum programs, and assessment tools used to monitor student progress. Information is shared related to instructional programs and assessments, including Bridges Mathematics, OGAP, PNOA, Structured Literacy components (ARC knowledge building, Heggerty phonemic awareness, UFLI phonics), IRLA, DIBELS, and locally developed curriculum-based measures. Families receive regular reports on student progress through conferences and ongoing communication.

Families expressed interest in receiving more frequent and detailed information about what students are learning and how progress is measured. In response, staff share instructional strategies, assessment information, and classroom focus areas during conferences and family learning events, and through take-home materials designed to support learning at home.

The policy states that the school will provide, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible (*ESSA, Section 1116(c)(4)(C)*).

6. How will the school accommodate meeting requests?

Upon parent request, Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) schedules additional meetings to allow families to share input, receive individualized information, and participate in decisions related to their child's education. School staff respond to requests in a timely manner and maintain open, two-way communication throughout the school year via phone, email, and in-person or virtual meetings.

Families are encouraged to request meetings in formats and locations that best meet their needs, including virtual meetings or, when appropriate, community-based locations. These practices reflect the school's commitment to removing participation barriers and fostering meaningful family involvement.

The policy states how the school will involve parents and family members in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan under Section 1114 per ESSA (*ESSA, Section 1116(5)*). Applies only to Title I schools operating a Schoolwide Program.

7. If applicable, how will the school meet with parents and family members to develop and discuss the Schoolwide Plan?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) currently operates a Targeted Assistance Title I program. If WNIS transitions to a Schoolwide Program under ESSA §1114, the school will convene structured stakeholder engagement opportunities, including Parent Advisory Council meetings and targeted focus groups, to jointly develop, review, and revise the Schoolwide Plan. These activities will ensure organized, ongoing, and timely parent and family participation throughout the planning, implementation, and evaluation process.

The policy states that a school-parent compact will be jointly developed with parents and family members. The compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and the parents will build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact shall:

- describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under this part to meet the challenging state academic standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time (*ESSA, Section (d)(1)*);
- address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
- parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement.
- frequent reports to parents on their children's progress.
- reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities; and ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand (*ESSA, Section 1116(d)(2)(A-D)*).

8. How will the school involve parents and family members in the development of the school-parent compact?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) annually reviews and jointly revises the School-Parent Compact in collaboration with parents through Parent Advisory Council meetings and family surveys. The compact is discussed during parent teacher conferences and distributed to all Title I families to clearly outline

shared responsibilities for supporting student learning and maintaining ongoing communication between home and school.

Family feedback emphasizing the importance of regular communication and understanding student progress is reflected in the compact's focus on meaningful parent teacher conferences, frequent progress updates, and collaborative accountability for student success.

The policy states how the school will provide assistance to parents and family members in understanding the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children (*ESSA, Section 1116(6)(e)(1)*).

The policy states how the school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, including education about the harms of copyright piracy, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement (*ESSA, Section 1116(6)(e)(1)*).

9. How will the school provide training materials to parents and family members?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) provides training opportunities and instructional materials for parents through family literacy and mathematics events, take-home resources, and tutorials focused on the use of school-based technology and instructional platforms. All resources are aligned with parent feedback and are designed to help families support student learning and monitor academic progress.

In response to parent requests, WSES prioritizes training and materials focused on reading strategies, mathematics strategies, and homework support. Resources may include take-home practice packets, printed guides, optional digital tools, and summer learning materials to support continued skill development at home.

The policy states how the school will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and family members, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and family members and the school (*ESSA, Section 1116(6)(e)(3)*).

10. How will the school use parents to train staff on how to work with parents as equal partners?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) incorporates parent and family input into staff professional learning by collecting feedback through Parent Advisory Council meetings, family surveys, and ongoing communication with families. This feedback is analyzed and used to guide staff development focused on strengthening family engagement practices.

Professional learning emphasizes the value of parent contributions, effective two-way communication strategies, and the development of positive, collaborative partnerships with families. Staff training also reflects parent-identified needs related to communication clarity, flexibility in engagement opportunities, and

providing practical instructional supports that families can use to reinforce learning at home.

The policy states how the school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children (*ESSA, Section 1116(6)(e)(4)*).

11. How will the school coordinate with other federal, state, and local programs to include public preschool programs?

WSES coordinates engagement with district initiatives and community partners, including Head Start and local early learning providers, to support preschool-to-kindergarten transitions. Joint activities, shared events, and information exchange help families participate fully in their children's education.

Engagement activities may be hosted in community or partner locations when appropriate, supporting families who indicated that non-school settings feel more accessible.

The policy states how the school will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in a format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and family members can understand (*ESSA, Section 1116(6)(e)(5)*).

12. How will the school ensure information is in a language parents can understand? This should include how documents are translated.

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) shares information with families in plain, jargon-free language and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and guardians understand. Translation and interpretation services are provided upon request or when a need is identified. Written documents may be translated, and meetings may be interpreted to ensure meaningful participation.

Alternate formats are made available as needed to support parents and guardians with disabilities or limited literacy, ensuring all families have equitable access to information and engagement opportunities.

The policy states how the school, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children) (*ESSA, Section 1116(7)(f)*).

13. How will the school include parents and family members of English Learners?

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School (WSES) ensures meaningful participation of parents and family members of English Learners by providing translated notices and forms, interpreter support during meetings and parent teacher conferences, and access to multilingual resources. Outreach is supported through trusted school staff to foster strong relationships and encourage ongoing family engagement.

Meetings may be offered in person or virtually with appropriate language support, based on family needs and preferences. Families of English Learners are actively invited to participate in the Parent Advisory Council and other stakeholder groups to ensure their perspectives are represented in school planning and decision-making.