

Title I School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Sierra Middle School

2026 - 2027

- 2.0 With approval from the local governing board, Sierra Middle School has jointly developed with, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents, and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. (*EC Section 11503; 20 United States Code [U.S.C.] Section [§] 6318[b](1-4)*)

Sierra Middle School has shared and received feedback from the Sierra School Site Council, English Language Advisory Committee, and the Sierra Middle School staff. At the beginning of the year the family engagement policy is shared with families and students to build consensus and understanding of school community members responsibilities to support student learning. These committees meet monthly to review assessment data, survey results (such as the Youth Truth Family Survey), and program effectiveness. The policy is distributed annually to all parents and family members through Parent Square, the school website, and in hard copy during school-wide events like Back-to-School Night.

2.1 Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

The school-level parent and family engagement policy shall describe the means for how Sierra Middle School shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[b](1))

- a) The school convenes an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited to attend and encouraged to attend, to inform parents and family members of their school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements, and the right of the

parents to be involved. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][1])

As an introduction to Sierra Middle School, all students and families are invited to student orientation the week before school begins. During this orientation all parents are shared with general information on Sierra and specific information on how our Title One program assists students. All Title One parents are invited to attend a morning and afternoon meeting to inform them of requirements and parent rights. This information is also shared in school communication via ParentSquare messaging.

b) The school offers a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][2])

Sierra offers multiple meeting times to try and accommodate families work schedules and needs. Sierra offers translators and child care options to help families have the opportunity to attend.

c) The school involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][3])

Sierra shares and is open to receiving feedback on our Title One program. Information is shared with the School Site Council and English Language Advisory Committee. Information is shared with the Sierra staff leadership team and then all site members.

d) The school provides parents of participating children with the following:

i. Timely information about the Title I program. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][A])

Parents are offered three meetings to learn about the Sierra Title One program and information is shared via Parent Square within the first month of the school year.

ii. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress,

and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][B])

Information is shared with all parents that Sierra offers five core subjects; English Language Arts, mathematics, science, history, and physical education. Students are assessed every five weeks based on identified district standards. Curriculum and lessons are aligned to state standards and are designed to prepare students for the CAASPP assessments.

iii. 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. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][C])

Sierra holds monthly PTA, School Site Council, English Language Advisory Committee, and coffee with the principals, all which allow for family feedback and engagement. Parents / guardians are welcome to contact the administration to give feedback and help with school improvement suggestions.

e) If the schoolwide program (SWP) plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school submits any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency (LEA). (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][5])

If any school policy or guidelines are not approved by parent / guardian approval, the school would listen to suggested ideas and revamp our school wide program plan. We would make corrections to suggested ideas and resubmit / present the new plan goals with families at a rescheduled meeting.

2.2 Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under Title I, Part A shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e])

a) The school provides assistance to parents of children served by the school or LEA, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][1])

Sierra offers tier one support to all students. If students may need additional help in understanding the curriculum, tier 2 support, the school would offer the opportunity for students to receive Title One assistance throughout the school day. Students needing tier 3 support may be offered support with the Resource Specialist Program and Special Day Class support. Students are offered the opportunity before school to receive assistance before school in the Sierra Summit or library. After school support is available in the library, Summit and in math and science classes. School support for students is detailed in meetings and via parent square for families.

b) The school provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][2])

During the Sierra Orientation Day parents have the opportunity to meet with an English, math, science , and history teacher. These teachers review expectations for their subject matter and detail academic expectations. Students complete a weekly planner outlining all work due for the school week in core classes. All students and parents have access to Aeries to observe grades and attendance. Work assignments are also available on google classroom.

c) The school educates teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][3])

Sierra staff is trained on topics ranging from child abuse, information technology support, to inclusive environments. Sierra works through parent conferences and meetings to build this communication and shared partnership with families.

d) The school, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][4])

Sierra works with local organizations such as Valley Community Counseling Services and El Concilio to provide a direct connection with community support for families.

e) The school ensures that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][5])

Sierra posts newsletters, general school information, and individual staff communication on ParentSquare for families. This format translates the information into the families' home language. Sierra has two bilingual interpreters who are available to assist students and families with school information and resources.

f) The school provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][14])

Sierra is open to assisting parents with academic and socio/emotional support their children may need. Parents may reach out to administrative, counseling or teaching staff for help and guidance.

2.3 Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of Title I, Part A, Sierra Middle School, to the extent practicable, shall 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), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 6311), as amended by ESSA, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[f])

Sierra holds monthly English Language Advisory meetings for all families. Sierra bilingual interpreters are at meetings and provide assistance to families. School documentation is translated into the family's home language. Bilingual interpreters and paraprofessionals support non-English speaking students during the school day.