2022-2023
Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Excellence Community Schools recognizes parents' and/or guardians' rights to be fully informed of all information relevant to their children who participate in programs and projects funded by the Title 1 Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Excellence Community Schools will ensure parental involvement and family engagement in these programs and projects by:

I. Building Capacity for Parent Involvement and Engagement

Excellence Community Schools will ensure that all parents and/or guardians are involved in our school in a meaningful manner to build a cohesive school culture and uphold high academic standards. We will build capacity for parent involvement and family engagement to:

a. Educate and provide materials to parents/guardians of children served by Excellence Community Schools on state standards in core academic subjects, state and local academic assessments, how to support your child's academic achievement, how to monitor your child's progress, and how to partner with your child's teachers to improve their academic growth and development;
b. Provide all Excellence Community Schools staff with professional development regarding parent involvement and family engagement, partner with parents, communicate with parents/guardians, and build home-school connections.
c. Integrate parent/guardian involvement programs and activities across content areas, if feasible and appropriate that encourage parents/guardians to fully participate in the education of their children.
d. Ensure that all information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/guardians of participating children in a format and in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

II. Involving Parents/Guardians in the Joint Development of the Title 1 Plan

Parents/Guardians are invited to participate in one annual Title 1 meeting held in the first trimester (late September – early December). The agenda will include the following: an explanation of the purpose of the Title 1 funding program; the funds received for each program and how they are allocated; the level of parent/guardian involvement and engagement in school-wide activities; and parent/guardian involvement and engagement requirements. The meeting will allow time for questions and answers. All concerns and questions are recorded and will be addressed in a timely manner. We will distribute the agenda, a summary of parent/guardian involvement activities, title 1 funding allocations, and a description of the current Title 1 program and services. Parents are invited to join a Title 1 Parent Committee to help review, plan, and improve our Title 1 program.

III. Providing the coordination, technical assistance, and support necessary to assist school leaders in the planning and implementing effective parent/guardian involvement and engagement activities.

a. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled two-three times during the school year to give parents/guardians the opportunity to discuss and to get information pertaining to their child's academic progress.
b. Progress reports are sent bi-weekly to provide current and up-to-date information on their child's academic progress.
c. Report cards are sent home three-four times per academic calendar.
d. School leaders and support staff will help parents/guardians better understand the assessments.
e. The BCSE Parent Association also facilitates parent/guardian involvement and engagement.
f. Other activities that promote parent/guardian involvement and engagement (but not limited to):
    i. Curriculum Night
    ii. Literacy Night
    iii. Family Fitness Nights
    iv. Art show
    v. Publishing Parties
    vi. STEM/Robotics Camp
    vii. Saturday Academy ELA/Math Parent Workshops
    viii. Health and Wellness/Yoga/Capoeira
    ix. Advocacy Day and Bronx Week Parade
    x. District-wide Spelling Bee
    xi. MAP assessments

IV. Conducting, with the involvement of parents, an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving Title 1 programs and activities, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by Title 1.

a. The findings of the evaluation will be made available for review by parents/guardians and will be used to design strategies for more effective parent/guardian involvement.
b. Excellence Community Schools will make available a copy of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to all parents.
c. The policy is also made available to parents/guardians and the local community through the school's website.

In carrying out the parent involvement requirements, Excellence Community Schools, to the extent that it is feasible and appropriate, will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/guardian with limited English proficiency, and parents/guardians with disabilities, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practical, in a language the parents/guardians understand.

Excellence Community Schools provides Title 1 programs to all students free of charge. We will ensure equity among the schools of the same grade span and levels of instruction with regard to teachers, administrators, and staff, as well as equity in the provision of curricula and instructional supplies in Title 1 programs.