CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Michael R. White Montessori Parent and Family Engagement Policy
School Year 2026-2027

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Michael R. White Montessori **(MRWM)** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a parent and family engagement policy (written or posted on school website), agreed on by such parents and family members, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents and family members shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents and family members can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents, family members, and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement several specific parental and family engagement activities.

MRWM understands that parent and family engagement mean the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child

MRWM agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

MRWM will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents and family members of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' and family members requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent and family compact.

- Meetings will be held Thursday, September 11, 2025 from 6pm-8pm.
- Information shared will include:
    - School policy and procedures
    - School activities
    - Parent, Student, and Staff expectations/agreements

B. **FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

MRWM will offer a flexible number of engagement meetings in accordance with the OPHAS level as outlined in Part A at convenient times for parents and families, such as meetings in the morning or evening (for which the school may use Title I funds to provide transportation, childcare or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement (if the state's current OPHAS Level is 1).

- Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings will occur at the beginning of school activity nights.
    - September 17, 2026 at 6pm (Father's Walk)
    - October 28, 2026 at 5pm (Spooky Steam Night)
    - December 17, 2026 PAC Meeting
    - February 24, 2026 PAC Meeting
    - May 20, 2026 PAC Meeting

C. **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

MRWM will take the following actions to engage parents and families in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan.

- The PAC meetings will engage families and build their capacity to provide feedback and suggestions on the school policy, compact, AAP, and other school initiatives.

D. COMMUNICATION

MRWM will provide parents and families of participating children timely information about programs under Title I, including:

a) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use,
b) forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress,
c) achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, and
d) if requested by parents and families, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicable possible.

Information related to the school and parent and family engagement programs, meetings, and other activities, will be provided to the parents and families of enrolled children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand.

- Communication strategies will include:
    - IVR messaging

- Newsletters
- Website/Social Media
- Parent events/meetings
- Phone, text, email
- District/School mailers

E. DISSENSION PROCESS

MRWM will submit any comments/concerns to the CMSD Office of Family and Community Engagement if the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents and family members.

Any comments/concerns can be emailed to the Executive Director of Family and Community Engagement, Tracy Hill, at tracy.hill@clevelandmetroschools.org.

F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

MRWM will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents and family members of enrolled children a school-parent and family compact that outlines how parents, families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated.

During the PAC meetings within the 2025-2026 school year,
Based on input gathered from stakeholders, a draft will be developed outlining the commitments of our school and family members to support student success. This compact is meant to focus on attendance, communication, PBIS, and ways parents can be involved in their child's education. The compact will be shared on our school website.

G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS

MRWM will build the parent and family capacity for strong family engagement to ensure effective engagement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Materials and training to help parents and families to work with their children to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Provide assistance to parents and families of enrolled children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - the State's academic content standards,
  - the State's student academic achievement standards,
  - the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
  - the requirements of Title I, Part A,

    - how to monitor their child's progress, and
    - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Educate school personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents and families, in the value and utility of the contributions of parents and families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent and family programs, and build ties between parents, families, and the school.
- Coordinate and integrate parental and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as family resource centers and materials that encourage and support parents and families to fully participate in the education of their children.
- Include families and community members in the development of outreach events.

H. ACCESSIBILITY

MRWM in carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities, for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with 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 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents/caregivers understand.

- Include families and community members in:
    - Open House
    - Meet and Greet
    - Quarterly Family Nights
    - Parent Advisory Committee meetings
    - Academic Achievement Plan developments

This School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents and families of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

This policy was developed with representatives of PAC and community leaders to meet the needs of our stakeholders while providing a comprehensive academic experience for all students. This policy will serve as MRWM's commitment to involving families and community members in the ongoing developments of this school.

This policy was adopted by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and will be in effect for the period of (School Year). The school will distribute this policy to all parents and families of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **September 12, 2025**.

(Signature of Principal)

(Signature of Parent/Caregiver Leader)

10/14/2024

(Date)

10/14/2026

(Date)