Westmoreland Elementary School

Family Engagement Policy

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Westmoreland Elementary SY 2026-2027

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Westmoreland Elementary School 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 written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Westmoreland Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve 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 school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of families and the school, distribute it to the families of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families of migratory children,

including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language families understand.

- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
  (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  (C) 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; and
  (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.
- Solicit input from families regarding interests in the types of family engagement to be implemented throughout the year. This is done through Parent Interest Surveys.
- Hold after-school activities to encourage families to participate together to learn new and effective strategies to help their children succeed.
- A parent/family representative is invited to the district planning meeting held each year in the spring to learn about what is happening throughout the district through the Title I program.
- Parent/Family input is solicited during the early months of the year to plan for the following school year.
- A parent/family representative is invited to our school's planning meetings.
- Parents/Families are invited to meet with Title I Reading Specialists during Parent/Teacher Conferences to discuss their child's progress or any other questions or concerns they may have about the Title I program.
- Parents and families are given a copy of our Home/School Learning Compact at the beginning of the year to ensure everyone is aware of expectations of teachers, parents/families, and students.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Westmoreland Elementary School will take the following actions to involve families in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by families, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

This policy was developed by teachers, parents, and students. Teachers suggested home learning strategies and families gave suggestions and ideas to make the strategies more specific. Parent and family input was also given through joint planning meetings, suggestion boxes, and surveys.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Westmoreland Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all families of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the families' requirements, the School Parent Compact and Family Engagement Policy, the school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

The Annual Meeting will be offered at two different times every year to inform families of the requirements of Title I, and the school's participation, as well as the families rights to be involved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Westmoreland Elementary School will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, childcare or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:
    - The parent and family engagement policy will be made available at our annual meetings and posted on the school website.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Westmoreland Elementary will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Westmoreland Elementary School's leadership committee created the foundation of our school-parent compact and has published it to families of our students asking for their input. This compact is being shared to parents/families for input. It will then be distributed to all families and posted on the school website.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Westmoreland Elementary School will take the following actions to involve the families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- Listening to our parent representatives during planning meetings.
- Considering all input from parents and families received through our Interest Survey and our Planning Survey.
- Making available a Suggestion Box at all Family Engagement events.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Westmoreland Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Working with local churches to provide weekend food bags for students in need.
- 4-H Club
- School Nutrition Program
- School Nurse
- Special Education Program
- Title I Program

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Westmoreland Elementary School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school.

Westmoreland Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request.