Parent/Family Engagement Policy 2026-2027

Ladera STARS Academy

Ladera STARS Academy has developed a written Parent/Family Engagement Policy with input from parents of students eligible to receive such assistance via Title I funds. The Ladera STARS Academy School Site Council develops the Parent/Family Engagement Policy by reviewing a template containing the required elements provided by the California Department of Education, discussing the required elements and modifying it to reflect the specific needs and priorities of the Ladera STARS Academy community. The final draft will be forwarded to the Conejo Valley Board of Education for approval. This plan will be reviewed and updated each fall in conjunction with the development of the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA).

The policy will then be posted in English and Spanish on the school website and its contents will be discussed at the annual Title 1 Meeting that will be held each fall. The policy describes the means for carrying out the following Targeted Assistance parental involvement requirements [*20 USC* 6318 Section 1118(a)-(f) inclusive].

Involvement of Parents in the Title 1 Grant Program

To involve parents in Ladera STARS Academy's Title 1 program, Ladera STARS Academy will do the following:

- Convene an annual meeting to inform Ladera STARS Academy parents about requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the program.
    - This meeting will be held each year within the first few months of school. Parents of students are notified of this meeting in the monthly newsletter, *Dragon Tales* and weekly *Dragon Blast*s, sent to families by email.

- Offer flexible meeting times for parents of eligible students, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
    - Meeting times and dates will be determined using input from the School Site Council (SSC) members and the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC).

- Involve parents of students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Targeted Assistance programs, and the Targeted Assistance Parent/Family Engagement Policy.
    - SSC meets monthly and ELAC meets five times each year. These meetings provide parents with timely information about the Title 1 program's ongoing developments, as well as to gather input from parents and staff on program components. All SSC and ELAC meetings are open to parents and are advertised through email blasts, phone calls and texts to targeted populations, and the school website.

- The program is monitored through the School Site Council, which includes five elected parent representatives. All Ladera STARS Academy parents are encouraged, via flyers, email blasts, and newsletters, to participate as candidates for SSC and/or to elect parents that will represent their students' interests.
- The SSC is integral to the development and monitoring of the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA), which outlines the actions and expenditures related to Ladera STARS Academy's Title 1 program.

- The school provides parents of students with timely information about Targeted Assistance programs.
  - Parents receive information about the Ladera STARS Academy Title 1 Program at the yearly parent meeting held within the first few months of school, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and through communications via the teacher, school, and district.
  - SSC meets monthly and ELAC meets five times each year. These meetings provide parents with timely information about the program's ongoing developments.
  - Parents receive a note/email each trimester letting them know that their child is participating in an intervention or designated ELD group during the school day.

- The school provides parents of students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  - Each year all Ladera parents are encouraged to become knowledgeable about these areas through attendance at Back to School Night held in September, Open House held in May, regularly scheduled October Parent-Teacher conferences, and additional parent conferences and individual Student Study Team meetings (as needed).
  - The school intervention curriculum and assessments used to determine eligibility for assistance, as well as the assessments used to measure student growth throughout the year, will be reviewed each year at the Title 1 Parent Meeting, held within the first two months of school.
  - Parents receive information through the school website, newsletter, the school handbook, emails/notes from the classroom teacher, periodic notifications from the school and the district, as well as trimester report cards.

- The school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children if requested.
  - **o** Parents are encouraged to participate in the regularly scheduled annual Title 1 meeting as well as regularly scheduled School Site Council, ELAC, Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings, and Student Study Team meetings (as needed).
  - **o** All parents are encouraged to attend Parent/Teacher Conferences in October to learn more about their child's academic progress.
  - **o** Parents are encouraged to contact their child's classroom teacher via email or telephone to schedule a private conference before or after school for clarification or questions regarding their children's progress and/or to participate in decisions related to their children's education.

School-Parent Compact
Ladera STARS Academy will distribute to the parents of all students, a Title 1 school-parent compact each fall. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents.

- The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities

The School Compact will be reviewed and updated as needed each year by the School Site Council as part of the development and monitoring of the Ladera STARS Academy School Plan for Student Achievement.

Building Capacity for Involvement
Ladera STARS Academy engages parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices:

- Provides parents with support in understanding the California State Standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.
    - Grade level curriculum and assessments, proficiency standards, and strategies for parents to assist their child are discussed each year at Back to School Night by each classroom teacher. Student progress toward proficiency is monitored and reported to parents on a trimester basis with Progress Reports and Report Cards.
    - Parent-Teacher conferences to discuss student progress and to give parents specific ways to support their students, are held after the first trimester Progress Reports are distributed to families.
    - Parents receive guidance and suggestions for ways to assist their child via home-to-school communication from the teachers and school, additional parent-teacher conferences (held as needed), parent workshops offered throughout the district, ELAC meetings (open to all parents of English Learners) and Student Study Team meetings.

- Provides parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
    - Teachers regularly recommend and supply activities for parents to practice skills with their students, such as RAN (rapid automatic naming) boards, flash cards, word lists, and leveled readers.
    - At ELAC meetings, parents are provided with strategies and games to help their children practice math facts, number sense and reading. The strategies/games are

practiced at the ELAC meeting so parents will be comfortable teaching them to their children.
    - Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences and regular school-home communication from teachers and the school, provide information and strategies to train parents to help them work with their students.
    - Parent/Family Outreach team provides workshops for parents to learn and practice technology platforms important for their child's education (e.g. Canvas, SeeSaw, email skills), as well as a monthly speaker series to encourage parental involvement in their child's education.

- Educates staff members about the value of parent contributions and on how to work with parents as equal partners.
    - Parents serving on SSC and ELAC work regularly with the staff also serving on these councils. An open exchange of ideas is encouraged and parents are respected as equal partners.
    - Staff meeting time, professional development, and articles provide staff with effective and meaningful ways to work with parents.
    - Teachers actively recruit parents to volunteer in their classrooms or to help with home projects if they cannot help during the school day. Parent volunteers are highly valued and honored at a breakfast in the Spring.

- Coordinates and integrates the Title 1 parental involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
    - Ladera STARS Academy works with PTA, ELAC, SSC, the CVUSD Outreach staff, and Ladera STARS Academy's instructional staff to promote parental involvement through school events (including but not limited to: Back to School Night, Book Fair, the Fall Festival, "Cupid BINGO" Night, Open House, and parent meetings).
    - CVUSD and Ladera STARS Academy employ a Community Outreach coordinator and assistant to work with parents and support their education and involvement at school. They also provide a vital link between the community and school/district resources.

- Distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format and language that the parents understand.
    - Information regarding programs, meetings, and other activities is distributed in writing through home-school communications, through an all-call system via phone and email, through the school's newsletter, flyers, and via the school website, in both English and Spanish.

- The school provides support for parental involvement activities requested by parents.

- Parents are welcome to make suggestions and help foster further involvement and informational opportunities for parents at Ladera. Completion of parent surveys, attendance at ELAC and SSC meetings, and communication through staff members are all encouraged.

Accessibility

Ladera STARS Academy provides opportunities for the participation of all Title 1 parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.

- Written, oral, and electronic information is provided in both English and Spanish. Translators are provided at school meetings and parent conferences, as needed.