Cuero Independent School District

Title I, Part A

Parent and Family Engagement – ESSA Public Law 114-95, Section 1116

7/1/2025

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Cuero ISD agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures, including the process of school review and improvement under section 1116, will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESSA.

- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parent and family engagement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESSA.

- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement policy requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and family members with limited English proficiency, with disabilities, and of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and family members understand.

- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents and family members of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.

- The school district will involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school district will provide such other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under section 1118 of the ESSA as the parents and family members may request.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) that parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) that parents and family members 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; (D)the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESSA.

- Provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;

- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;

- Educate 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;

- To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement 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 parents in more fully participating in the education of their children Provide assistance to parents to understand the State's academic content standards, the State and local assessment, and how to work with educators to improve their child's achievement;

- Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;

- Provide reasonable support for family engagement activities.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The Cuero ISD will take the following actions to engage parents and family members in the joint development of its district-wide parent and family engagement plan under section 1118 of the ESSA:
   - Parent Members on CPOC
   - Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
   - Bi-annual Parent Conferences

• Parent/Teacher/Student Compacts

2. The Cuero ISD will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESSA:
   • Parent Surveys
   • Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
   • Parent Information/Involvement Night
   • Student/Parent Orientation
   • Parent Membership on CPOC
   • Parent Conferences (twice yearly scheduled)
3. The Cuero ISD will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
   • Region 3 Parental Involvement Conference
   • Parent Membership on CPOC
   • Parent Surveys
4. The Cuero ISD will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I, Part A schools with parent and family engagement strategies under the following other programs: Region 3 Service Center, Gulf Bend Center, CATCH Wellness TEAM, MidCoast Family Services, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension by:
   • Early Learning Group (weekly; ages 0-PreK)
   • Parenting & Family Engagement Workshops - Region 3 Speakers; Community Speakers
   • Coffee with the Counselor
   • Watchdog Program

5. The Cuero ISD will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and family members in engagement activities (with particular attention to parents and family members who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents and family members), its parent and family engagement policies. Parent surveys (English and Spanish) created and generated by district and disseminated by campuses. Data and input received will be used to create parent involvement activities.

6. The Cuero ISD will build school and parent capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and family members, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents and family members of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –

- 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:
- STAAR Information Night
- Parent/Student Orientation
- Parent Conferences
- STAAR/TPRI Informational Meetings
- Parenting Meetings and Activities including Literacy and Math
- Coffee With The Counselor
- Meet The Teacher Night/Information Night
- Open House
- Parenting Workshops
- Newsletters

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Parent Conferences
- STAAR/EOC Informational Meetings
- Parenting Meetings and Activities including Literacy, Math, and STEM
- Library Night
- Meet the Teacher Night/Orientation/Information Night
- Parent/Student Orientation
- Open House
- Parenting Workshops
- Coffee With The Counselor
- Newsletters

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, parents and family members, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to,

communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent and family engagement, and build ties between parents, family members, and schools, by:

- Teacher Trainings (prior to start of school year)
- Faculty Meetings
- Parental Conferences
- In-service
- Teacher Memos as Necessary

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement activities with Head Start, the Parents as Teachers Program, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent and family engagement resource centers that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- Free Transportation
- Parent / Child Resource Room
- Childcare

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Alternative language translations available upon request

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICTWIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM COMPONENTS

NOTE: The District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Program may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents and family members, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for engagement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESSA:

- involving parents and family members in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

- training parents and family members to enhance the involvement of other parents and family members;

- arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents and family members who are unable to attend conferences at school; in order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education;

- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent and family engagement;

- establishing a district-wide parent and family member advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;

- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

NOTE: Events may be canceled or scheduled in a virtual format due to guidelines and mandates associated with school safety as a result of COVID19.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by Title I parent/staff meetings.

This policy was adopted by the Cuero ISD on and will be in effect for the period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents and family members of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 1, 2024.

Micah A. Dyer, Cuero ISD Superintendent **July 1, 2025**