Grand Coulee Dam School District Combined Parent and Family Engagement Policy 4130 | Plan

2026-2027
Adopted 6/8/2026
GCDSD
www.gcdsd.org

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful conversations involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

(A) That families play an integral role in their child's learning.

(B) That families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.

(C) That 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.

(D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).



About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Grand Coulee Dam School District (GCDSD) has developed this Parent and Family Engagement Policy that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I, Part A schools. This plan will describe GCDSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I, Part A schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. The GCDSD will work with its Title I, Part A schools to ensure that the required school-level policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

Jointly Developed

During the annual evaluation meeting in June 2026, all families were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve GCDSD's Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the 2026-2027 school year. The district sent email and/or ClassDojo notification through classroom teachers to all families informing them about this meeting, posted on the school Facebook, and posted an announcement on the GCDSD website. During this meeting, families also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated Grant Application (CGA) and the School Improvement Plan | Schoolwide Plan. Additionally, each Title I, Part A school can use a Parent Advisory Council to review the district parent and family engagement policy before the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

Upon final revision, the GCDSD Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be incorporated into the CGA, which was submitted to the state. Families are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to your child's school. All feedback received by April 2026 was considered for revisions to this policy.

The GCDSD's plan to distribute this policy includes posting it on district and school websites, having copies available in the Lake Roosevelt Elementary office, disseminating it during the annual Title I, Part A school meetings in the Fall, and sending via email and/or ClassDojo through classroom teachers to all families in a format and language they can understand.

Communications

The GCDSD will communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone and text messages, emails, social media, school newsletters, and flyers. The district and school will share information in English and other languages to the extent possible through written communications, meetings, conferences, and family engagement events in order for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as ways families can monitor their child's progress.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the GCDSD will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I, Part A schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I, Part A schools will receive notifications and resources from the district to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district will hold quarterly meetings and trainings with its Title I, Part A schools' principals to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the GCDSD will convene a meeting in September for principals to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.



Opportunities for Meaningful Parent/Family Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All families of students eligible to receive Title I, Part A services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students reach various student academic achievement goals.

Annual Meeting ~ August 2026

All families are welcome to hear the latest updates from GCDSD, as well as review and provide input into the GCDSD Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School Improvement Plan for the 2026-2027 school year. The district will send email and/or ClassDojo notifications through classroom teachers to all families informing them about this meeting, post on school Facebook, and post an announcement on the GCDSD website.

Annual Evaluation Meeting ~ June 2027

All families are invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the 2026-2027 school year. The Title I, Part A evaluation survey will also be discussed to determine possible improvements or changes.

Conferences ~ October 2026 & March/April 2027

Title I, Part A information and resources available for families.

Input on the use of Title I, Part A funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

PAC Meetings ~ Quarterly

All families are invited to participate and provide input during the combined Parent Advisory Committee meetings.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit www.gcdsd.org to review the meeting documents and minutes and leave your input.



Annual Title I, Part A Meeting~ August 2026

At the beginning of the school year, all Title I, Part A schools will host a meeting to inform all parents of the Title I, Part A requirements and the school's participation in and parent's rights under Title I, Part A.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, all Title I, Part A schools, along with our families, will jointly develop school-parent compacts in order to build and develop a partnership to help our students meet the challenging state academic standards. These compacts serve as agreements that parents, teachers, and students will work together to make sure all students reach grade level standards by following and accomplishing goals set forth by parents, teachers, and students. The compacts will be revised annually, distributed to all families, and reviewed at parent/teacher conferences.

Building Capacity

The GCDSD will build partnerships between its Title I, Part A Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop capacity for this support, the GCDSD will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives.

Of Parents - The GCDSD will provide families with information about the overall Title I, Part A program and its requirements. The district works with its Title I, Part A schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information related to the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided. The district also helps parents in understanding use of its online student information system and other digital resources, including the harms of copyright piracy, through its technology specialists. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems, newsletters, and social media postings.

In addition, the district and school websites contain resources and materials such as parent guides, study guides, practice assessments, and materials for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials are also available at all Title I, Part A schools.

The Parent Advisory Council, made up of parent representatives from various programs, advises the district and schools on all matters related to family engagement. Community leaders and business partners are also invited to serve on the council. The participation of all our partners is encouraged through video conferencing and recording options to accommodate varying schedules.

The GCDSD will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs such as, the local preschool program. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, schools will host events such as Kindergarten Ready days, Middle and High School Transition Nights, and College and Career Fair so parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff - The GCDSD will conduct various trainings during the school year for principals to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I, Part A schools. The GCDSD will also host a training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs and activities is available to all parents, each Title I, Part A school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, local news media, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the GCDSD will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I, Part A schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

Beginning in April, each Title I, Part A school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school websites for families to complete.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the Federal/State Programs Director will communicate and collaborate with the other district program Directors to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Adoption

This district-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual GCDSD meeting.

This policy was adopted by the GCDSD Board of Directors on June 8, 2026 and will be in effect for the 2026-2027 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A, Part A children before or during the first week of first semester.

In addition to the annual survey, each Title I, Part A school will also use the School Improvement Meeting to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of parents of children eligible to receive Title I, Part A services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The GCDSD will use the findings from the school meetings and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Mark Your Calendars

Annual District Meeting

August 2026

Conferences

October 2026 & March/April 2027

Annual Parent Survey

April 2027

Annual Evaluation Meeting

June 2027

Quarterly PAC Meetings

TBD

