



Book	Policy Manual
Section	900 Community
Title	Title I Parent and Family Engagement
Code	918
Status	Active
Adopted	August 9, 2021

Purpose

The Board recognizes that meaningful parent and family engagement contributes to the achievement of state academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents and family members, and community.[\[1\]](#)
[\[2\]](#)

Definition

Parent and Family (Family Member) - these terms are used interchangeably and shall include caregivers, a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare, or a legally appointed Education Decision Maker of a child participating in a Title I program.

Authority

In compliance with federal law, the district and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written parent and family engagement policy. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will:[\[1\]](#)

1. Conduct outreach to all parents and family members.
2. Include parents and family members in development of the district's overall Title I Plan and process for school review and improvement.[\[3\]](#)
3. Include parents and family members in the development of the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Following adoption of the policy by the Board, the policy shall be:
 - a. Distributed in writing to all parents and family members.
 - b. Incorporated into the district's Title I Plan.[\[3\]](#)
 - c. Posted to the district's publicly accessible website.[\[4\]](#)
 - d. Evaluated annually with parent and family involvement.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.[\[1\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district and its schools with Title I programs provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members by providing resources, information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format or, upon request, in another format. Such efforts shall include:

1. Providing communications in clear and simple language.
2. Posting information for parents and family members on the district's website.
3. Including a telephone number for parents and family members to call with questions.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

1. An explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
2. A set of objectives to be addressed.
3. A description of the services to be provided.
4. A copy of this policy and the School-Parent and Family Compact.[\[1\]](#)

Parents and family members shall actively carry out their responsibilities in accordance with this policy and the School-Parent and Family Compact. At a minimum, parents and family members shall be expected to:[\[1\]](#)

1. Volunteer in their child's school when appropriate.[\[6\]](#)
2. Support their child's learning.
3. Participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and positive use of extracurricular time.

Guidelines

Each district school operating a Title I program shall hold an annual meeting of parents and family members at a convenient time, to explain the goals and purposes of Title I programs and to inform them of their right to be involved. Parents and family members shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Parents and family members shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.[\[1\]](#)

The schools shall involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the joint development of the Title I Plan.[\[1\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

At these meetings, parents and family members shall be provided:[\[1\]](#)

1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
2. Description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.

To ensure the continuous engagement of parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Plan and with the school support and improvement process, the district shall:

1. Establish meaningful, ongoing two-way communication between the district, staff and parents and family members.
2. Communicate with parents and family members about the plan and seek their input and participation through the use of newsletters, the district website, email, telephone, parent and teacher conferences, and home visits if needed.
3. Train personnel on how to collaborate effectively with parents and family members with diverse backgrounds that may impede their participation, such as limited literacy or language difficulty.
4. Distribute and discuss the School-Parent and Family Compact.

School-Parent and Family Compact

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents and family members a School-Parent and Family Compact outlining the manner in which parents and family members, school staff and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents and family members will build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the state's academic standards. The compact shall:[\[1\]](#)

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in Title I programs to meet the district's academic standards.
2. Describe the ways in which parents and family members will be responsible for supporting their child's learning; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time.[\[6\]](#)
3. Address the importance of ongoing two-way, meaningful communication between parents/family members and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences at the elementary level, frequent reports to parents and family members on their child's progress, reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.[\[6\]](#)

Annual Parent and Family Engagement Policy Evaluation

The district shall conduct, with meaningful participation of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of all district schools with a Title I program.[\[1\]](#)

The district shall use the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the district's Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.[\[1\]](#)

The evaluation shall identify:[\[1\]](#)

1. Barriers to parent and family member participation, with particular attention to those who are migrants, are economically disadvantaged, have a disability, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are any ethnic or racial minority.
2. The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers.
3. Strategies to support successful school and parent and family interactions.

Legal

1. 20 U.S.C. 6318
2. Pol. 102
3. 20 U.S.C. 6312
4. 24 P.S. 510.2
5. Pol. 138
6. Pol. 916
7. Pol. 127
8. Pol. 814
9. Pol. 333
10. 20 U.S.C. 7845
11. 29 U.S.C. 3271 et seq
12. 29 U.S.C. 701 et seq
13. 42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq
14. 42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq
15. Pol. 212