



TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

2021-2022

The Board of Directors, pursuant to its authority under Colorado law, hereby adopts this policy. Pursuant to federal law, the Network and the parents and families of students participating in Title I district programs have jointly developed the following parent and family engagement policy. The policy shall be implemented by the CEO or designee according to the timeline set forth in the policy and incorporated into the Network's Title I plan.

Involvement with Title I planning

The Network shall ensure that Title I schools will conduct an annual meeting for parents and families of students in Title I schools, as well as school staff, principals of schools receiving Title I funds, and other interested persons to discuss the Title I program plan, review implementation of the Title I plan, discuss how Title I funds allotted for parent and family engagement activities shall be used, and invite suggestions for improvement.

District support for parent and family engagement

The Network shall provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in building the capacity for effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

This coordination, assistance, and support shall include:

- The Network will provide technical support to leadership teams in Title I schools as they develop and evaluate the family and community plan as a part of their annual school improvement process.
- The Network will review and monitor the implementation of each Title I school's family and community engagement plan during regularly scheduled site visits. (These visits will take place at least once per year).
- The Network will create partnerships with various community agencies so schools can help their parents know and access available services and resources.
- The Network will communicate to schools the importance of creating and maintaining a welcoming atmosphere for parents and families.
- The Network will support Title I schools in their efforts to eliminate language barriers as they communicate with families.
- Understanding the value and utility of contributions of parents and families.
- Strategies for communication and collaboration with parents and families as equal partners.
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs.
- Building ties between parents and the school.

Student learning

The Network shall coordinate and integrate Title I parent and family engagement strategies with those of other educational programs in the district. The purpose of this coordination shall be to improve the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying challenges to greater participation by parents and families in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents and family members who:

- Are economically disadvantaged
- Have disabilities
- Have limited English proficiency
- Have limited literacy
- Are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- Are parents of immigrant and migratory children

Each Title I school, through the process of developing and evaluating their family and community plan annually, will identify any challenges to meaningful participation of parents and families.

The Network shall provide to parents, as appropriate, information to help them understand the Network's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor students' academic progress, and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of students. The Network shall develop written materials and training for staff to help parents and families work with students to improve student achievement.

This will be accomplished by:

- Providing support to schools for conducting training for parents and families to learn about standards, assessments, and improving student achievement.
- Explaining and communicating to parents and families in language that is friendly and understandable.
- Using technology to enhance parent and family access to information.
- Providing brochures and information on ways parents and families can support their child's literacy and mathematical achievement.

School-based parent and family engagement activities

Each Title I school shall encourage parents and families to become involved in activities of the school by:

- Ensuring that communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and understandable.
- Scheduling parent and family functions at different times of the day and different days of the week.
- Welcoming parents and families in the school while seeking and supporting their assistance.
- Encouraging and supporting parents and families in their important role of assisting student learning.
- Providing parents and families with information about services, activities and opportunities offered at the school for them and their children.

Method of communicating with parents and families

All information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities shall be sent to parents and families in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Annual evaluation

All Title I schools shall conduct, with meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy. Effectiveness shall be measured in part by improvements in student academic achievement and in school performance.

The evaluation shall specifically address challenges to greater participation by parents and families in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who:

- Are economically disadvantaged
- Have disabilities
- Have limited English proficiency
- Have limited literacy
- Are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- Are parents of immigrant and migratory children

The Network shall use the findings of the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and to revise, if necessary, this policy.

The Network shall provide such other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities as parents may request.

Development of school-level Title I parent and family engagement policy

Each school receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with, agree on, and distribute to parents and family members of students participating in the Title I program (hereafter referred to as “parents”) a written school-level Title I parent and family engagement policy in accordance with the requirements of federal law.

The policy shall contain a school-parent compact or agreement that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students.

Legal

20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq. (Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act)

Title I, Part A, Section 1112 (a) (parent role in the development of district Title I plan)

Title I, Part A, Section 1112 (e) (information for parents concerning teacher qualifications, assessments and language instruction)

Title I, Part A, Section 1114 (b)(1)(F) (School wide Reform Program must include strategies to increase parent involvement)

Title I, Part A, Section 1114 (b)(2) (eligible school that desires to operate a school wide program must develop a comprehensive plan, with involvement of parents and other community members)

Title I, Part A, Section 1115 (b)(2)(e) (Targeted Assistance Program must include parent involvement strategies)

Title I, Part A, Section 1116 (a) (Parent and family engagement policy)

Title I, Part C, Section 1304 (c)(3) (parent involvement in projects and programs for the education of migratory children)

C.R.S. 22-11-101 et seq. (Education Accountability Act of 2009)