



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy *Washington Elementary School* **2018-2019**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Washington Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the district.

Washington Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the targeted assistance or schoolwide program plan.
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- *Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning,*
- *Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school,*
- *Parents 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, and*

- *Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of ESSA.*

Required School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

The school parent and family engagement policy includes a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components:

- **Jointly Developed**

Washington Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

-Review/Revise at March 8 Parent Meeting

-School website

-Include in Family/Student Handbook 2019

-Printed copies in office resource file.

- **Annual Title I Meeting**

Washington Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

-Annually completed at Spring Parent Meeting (2nd Friday of the month)

- **Communications**

Washington Elementary will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs,
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement, and
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents 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.

-Daily Pupil/Patron time (8:30-9:00am and 3:30-4:00pm)

-Parent/Family Meetings 2nd Friday of the Month 6:00 pm

-Home visits (counselor, teachers, principal, support staff)

-On demand through office manager, parent liaison, teacher, principal, counselor, nurse

- **School-Parent Compact**

Washington Elementary will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

-Schoolwide plan shared at Family Meetings and School Board meetings (opportunity for public suggestion)

-Parent participation in School Leadership Team, which oversees and monitors plan implementation

- **Coordination of Services**

Washington Elementary will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement 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 by:

-Coordinate parent involvement activities with Washington Head Start preschool program and public library

-Invite community partners to "Resource Fair" twice per year (Back to School BBQ and Spring Fair)

-Bilingual Family Liaison on staff throughout the school day including at the front office

-All home communication provided in multiple languages, including weekly school newsletter and classroom newsletters.

-EL Instructional Specialist trains staff and organizes home visits.

- **Building Capacity of Parents**

Washington will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Provide parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards;
- Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement; and
- Provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic 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 to improve the achievement of their child.

-WAKids Teacher/Family Meetings

- Parent Academy (English, Spanish, and Mixteco)
- Parent/Teacher conferences (twice per year)
- Parent newsletters
- Presentations at Family Meetings
- Family Literacy/Math Nights

Washington will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Offering flexible meeting times and formats (phone and email communication if meeting is not possible)

Building Capacity for Involvement

The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of ESSA. Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement improve family-school partnerships:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
 - *Parent Academy*
 - *Family Meetings regarding curriculum*
 - *Interpreters at Family/Teacher meetings*
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
 - *Parent Academy*
- Maximize parent and family engagement and the participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
 - *Flexible conference scheduling with interpreter support*
 - *Home-visits for conferences*
 - *Telephone conferences for incarcerated or out of state parents*
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
 - *Family Nights*
 - *Parent Academy*
 - *Home Visits*
 - *Communities in Schools*
- Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.

- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.
 - *Mount Vernon Public Library Baile Folklórico partnership and bilingual story times*
 - *Girls on the Run/ YMCA*
 - *STEM Camp (5th Grade)*