

ADE Guidance on ESSA Sec. 1116 for FY21

The 2020-21 school year presents unique challenges for LEAs and schools; however, Title I requirements for parent and family engagement remain in place.

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy



Requirements:

- Shall be jointly developed with and agreed upon by parents and family members of participating children.
- Shall be written.
- Shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements.
- Shall be in an understandable format and provided in a language the parents can understand.
- Shall be made available to the local community.
- Shall be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Things to consider:

- *Does your parent engagement policy need to be updated to reflect engagement activities for the 2020-21 school year?*
- *If so, how will you include parents and family members virtually in its development?*
- *How is the policy made available to the local community?*

Title I Annual Meeting



Requirements:

- Shall be held annually.
- Shall invite all parents of children participating in Title I program.
- Agenda shall include:
 - Rights of the parents to be involved
 - Description and explanation of the curriculum
 - Forms of academic assessment
 - Achievement expectations
 - Title I program plan (SW or TA design)

Things to consider:

- *Is it feasible to host an in-person meeting?*
- *Does the school have the capacity to host a virtual live meeting?*
- *Could parents without a computer access or attend by phone/device?*
- *How will the LEA or school track virtual parent attendance?*
- *How will the school disseminate information to families without internet access?*
- *Could a recording be posted on the school website?*

Title I School-Parent Compact



Requirements:

- ❑ Shall be jointly developed with parents for all children served under Title I.
- ❑ Shall outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for student academic achievement.
- ❑ Shall describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.
- ❑ Shall describe the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning (such as volunteering in their child's classroom, participating in decisions relating to the education of their children, and use of extracurricular time).
- ❑ Shall address regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff in a language that family members can understand.

Things to consider:

- *How is the Compact made available to parents and family members?*
- *Is the Compact integrated into a Handbook? If so, how are signatures collected?*
- *Does the school have the capacity to collect electronic signatures?*
- *Can electronic signatures be time and date stamped?*
- *Could the Compact be a virtual recording?*
- *What evidence could be collected by the school to ensure parents have accessed the information in the Compact?*
- *Might a shared electronic platform be used to make the information available and then collect electronic verification of access/viewing?*
- *Does the school have a training platform that could be utilized for parent engagement? (One in which a short training is viewed through web-based software and electronically signed/verified by participant.)*

Each school shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written **parent and family engagement policy**, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements below.

Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities shall be sent to the parents of participating children in a format and in a language the parents can understand.

INFORM

Convene an **annual meeting**, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend.

Agenda should include:

- 1) Timely information on Title I
- 2) Curriculum
- 3) Assessments
- 4) Achievement expectations
- 5) Title I program plan
- 6) Parent rights to participate

ENGAGE

Jointly develop with parents for all children served a **school-parent compact** that outlines how (1) parents, (2) the entire school staff, and (3) students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement

Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children to meet the challenging State academic standards.

Describe the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; (volunteering, participating in education-related decisions, positive use of extracurricular time)

Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, parent-teacher conferences) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress, reasonable access to staff, and ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication

ENSURE

Parents of children served by the school are assisted in understanding such topics as the State academic standards, academic assessments, the requirements of Title I programs, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

Materials and training are provided to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement

With the assistance of parents, school staff are educated how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners

Parent involvement programs and activities are coordinated and integrated with other programs, and activities that support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children are offered.

Reasonable support for parental involvement activities is provided upon parent request