

# Lennox School District 41-4

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Serving the communities of Chancellor, Lennox and Worthing, South Dakota

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# Title I Lennox Elementary Parent Engagement Plan ESSA Section 1116 2020-2021

**VISION:** The Lennox School District seeks to create a challenging learning climate that encourages high expectations for success in a safe, caring, and supportive environment and actively involve our parents, teachers, and community members in our students' learning.

MISSION: Lennox School District's mission is to work together to inspire lifelong learners who innovate, persevere, and collaborate to solve the challenges of tomorrow.

# Part I: Lennox Elementary Expectations:

"Parent and Family Engagement" refers to the involvement of parents and family members of Lennox Elementary students.

- o The Principal and Title I Director shall ensure that Lennox Elementary parent and family engagement strategies are jointly developed with and agreed upon by parents and family members of students participating in Title I programs. Those strategies shall establish expectations for parent and family engagement and describe how the Lennox Elementary will carry out each activity listed in Section 1116 (a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2016 (ESEA).
- The Principal and Title I Director shall consult with parents and family members of participating students in the planning, implementation and evaluation of parent and family engagement programs, activities, and regulations. They shall involve parents and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the Lennox Elementary's Title I Targeted Assistance funds will be allotted for parent and family engagement activities.
- o The Principal and Title I Director shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent and family engagement plan in accordance with ESEA, Section 1112.

# Part II. Lennox Elementary Parental Involvement Policy Required Components

Lennox Elementary strives to engage parents/guardians, partners, and the greater community in meaningful activities and discussions that foster shared responsibility for student growth. Lennox Elementary will work to involve stakeholders in decision making at the building level. Lennox Elementary will encourage parent/guardian and community engagement in a variety of formats, such as PACE, school/business partnerships, accreditation teams, advisory committee assignments and volunteering. Lennox Elementary involves parents/guardians in developing the School Improvement Plan.

The Lennox School District 41-4 does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, age, religion, creed, or marital status.

1. Lennox Elementary will involve parents in the development and review of the district wide parent and family engagement plan:

The Principal and Title I Director will establish a Title I Focus Group to review Title I programs, School Improvement Plan/Goals, Family Engagement on a regular basis, along with implementing ways to provide information in a format family's can understand.

- 2. Lennox Elementary will establish objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement
  - a. The Principal and Title I Director will provide training to staff and parents on implementing engagement strategies to increase effective communication between home and school by
    - a. Annually reviewing Lennox Elementary's goals/District Strategic Plan.
    - b. Collecting and reviewing data from surveys to help determine strengths/needs and goals within Lennox Elementary.
    - c. Explore ways to improve/increase communication between school and home.
- 3. Lennox Elementary will provide coordination technical assistance, and support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to support academic achievement and school performance:
  - a. Lennox Elementary Title I Focus Group will determine how funds will be used for family engagement.
  - b. Lennox Elementary will conduct parent teacher conferences in the fall and spring to communicate academic achievement and school performance with parents.
    - 1. The teachers will provide information and discuss state and district assessments, content standards and student progress.
    - 2. Lennox Elementary will implement Family Engagement Opportunities during the 2020-2021 school year.
  - c. Supporting ongoing communication by:
    - a. Providing (EL) interpreters for parent teacher conferences and other formal meetings.
    - b. Providing comprehensive information through the District's website, <a href="www.lennox.k12.sd.us">www.lennox.k12.sd.us</a>. This information includes all District policies, agendas and minutes of School Board meetings, data profiles and performance reports for all schools; state report card, announcement, teacher lesson plans/websites.
    - c. Providing an opportunity for parents/guardians and community members to respond to news and announcements through District Communication Tools; Twitter, Seesaw, Zoom, Remind App, Class Dojo, School website, Weekly Announcements and Tuesday Folders, Emails/Texts, Teacher Websites; in their primary language whenever possible.
    - d. Providing timely updates and messages to parents, in their primary language whenever possible.
    - e. Providing, upon request, printed copies of the District Data Profile, the District Budget, specific District policies, and the District and individual school accountability report cards with summaries.
    - f. Facilitate information from parents through online surveys to understand strengths and needs within Lennox Elementary.
- 4. Lennox Elementary will build the schools and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement and develop strategies to support successful school and family interactions by
  - Facilitating communication between school personnel and the families of English Language Learners (ELL); Provide Interpreters for (EL families) at parent teacher conferences and other parent/guardian meetings.
  - b. The Principal and Title I Director will provide professional development to enhance the skills of teachers, administrators, and other staff, in building ties between parents and family members and the school.
  - c. The Principal and Title I Director will coordinate training with community resources to enhance engagement opportunities in the district.
    - a. JK-4th Grade: Business Buddies

- b. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Junior Achievement
- c. Guest Speakers/Assemblies
- d. Outdoor Campus Kits and Speakers
- e. Parents/Volunteers reading in the classrooms
- f. Wax Museum
- g. Title I Targeted Assistance engagement opportunities; Reading and Math
  - 1. 2020-2021: Math with Mom
  - 2. 2020-2021: Decoding with Dad
- d. The Principal and Title I Director will support teachers in developing academic kits/materials to strengthen connections to school-home and community resources and/or providing learning kits/materials for students to take home.
  - a. K-2 Grade Decodable Books
  - b. Math games shared with families
  - c. Teachers have grade level reading materials/activities that go home periodically.
- 5. Lennox Elementary will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I with parental involvement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs (Head Start, Migrant Education, McKinney Vento, and English Learners).
  - a. The Lennox Elementary Principal and Title I Director and other staff involved in Early Childhood Programs, Migrant Education, McKinney Vento, English Learner programs will review reports and plans for parent and family engagement to identify gaps, overlaps and opportunities for reinforcing involvement.
  - b. The Lennox Elementary Principal and Title I Director, and other staff involved will consult and communicate with parents and program representatives to ensure smooth transitions; For example: B-3, Head Start, Kindergarten, other transitional grades, ELL students new to the district.
- 6. Lennox Elementary will conduct, with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under Title I.
  - The building Principal, Title I Focus Group, and the Title I Director will annually review Parent/Teacher/Student Compacts; policies, and the Family Engagement Plan.
  - b. Superintendent and Title I Director will remain current on Title I rules and regulations to advise and support Title I schools and will meet with the Lennox Elementary Principal and Title I Teacher on a regular basis to keep him/her updated.
  - c. The building Principal, Title I Focus Group, and Title I Director will evaluate the policy and include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and family members in parent and family engagement activities, especially barriers to parents and family members who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.
  - d. The building Principal, Title I Focus Group, and Title I Director will examine how funding set aside for Parent and Family Engagement is spent.
- 7. Lennox Elementary will involve parents in the activities served under the Title I Program.
  - a. Lennox Elementary staff and administration will continue to create a safe and welcoming environment where families feel welcome at school.
  - b. Lennox Elementary staff and administration will continue to inform families of school goals; Strategic Plan, Building Goals.
  - c. Building Principal and Title I Director will provide continued support to staff in the on-going process of involving and encouraging parents in their child's education.

# Part III. Discretionary District Parental Involvement Policy Components

In increasing opportunities for parental involvement at Lennox Elementary, each school year, Lennox Elementary will implement two or more of the following parent and family engagement strategies that have been effective in school and parent partnership by

- a. Holding family events at various times of day and days of the week focused on activities that parents can do with their children to improve reading and math.
- b. Building relationships between teachers and parents; face-to-face communication, text message, or email, parent interest surveys and in the parent's primary language whenever possible.
- c. Communicate information through the parent's preferred method and in the parent's primary language whenever possible; on-going communication throughout the school year.
- d. Providing a monthly update to parents about school activities; Tuesday Folders, Announcements, Newsletters, Twitter, Emails/Texts, Classroom Websites
- e. Encouraging classroom teachers to send a newsletter home to parents summarizing what students have been learning, and sharing links to websites that families can explore with their children.
- f. Use surveys, focus groups, or other means to collect on-going information from parents and families as to what information they need about communication between school and home.

### Part IV. Adoption of District Policy

The Lennox Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed and agreed on by parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. The Lennox Elementary Principal will provide families with information on where to locate the Family Engagement Plan of participating Title I, Part A at the beginning of each school year.