



## 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 District Parent Engagement Plan ESSA Section 1116 2023-2024

**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: District Expectations:

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

- The Superintendent, Title I Director, and Principals shall ensure that the district's 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 School District will carry out each activity listed in Section 1116 (a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2016 (ESEA).
- The Superintendent, Title I Director, and Principals 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 inform parents and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the Lennox School District's Title I Targeted Assistance funds will be allotted for parent and family engagement activities.
- The Superintendent, Title I Director, and Principals 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. District Parental Involvement Policy Required Components

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

- 1. The Lennox School District will involve parents in the development and review of the district-wide parent and family engagement plan:**
  - a. The district will establish and include parent representatives in developing the District's Strategic Plan/School Improvement Plan annually.
  - b. The district will establish/require that each school within the district include parent representatives in developing their School Improvement Plan/Goals, and Family Engagement.
  - c. Establish a Title I Focus Group at Title I attendance centers to assist in reviewing and developing the Title I program on a regular basis and implementing ways to provide information in a format families can understand.
- 2. The Lennox School District will establish objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement:**
  - a. Provide training to staff and parents on implementing effective engagement strategies to increase effective communication between home and school.
    - a. Communicate about the district's School Improvement Plan/Goals.
      1. Collect and review data from surveys to help determine strengths/needs and goals within each school in the district.
- 3. The Lennox School District 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. The district will establish allocated funds to be set aside for Parent Involvement among Title I schools to support parent and family activities.
  - b. The district will provide staff with time for parent-teacher conferences in the fall and spring to communicate academic achievement and school performance.
    1. The teachers will provide information and discuss state and district assessments, content standards, and student progress.
    2. Implement Family Engagement Opportunities during conferences to explore learning strategies to use at home with reading strategies and/or upon parent request when possible.
  - c. The district will support ongoing communication by:
    - a. Providing (EL) interpreters for parent-teacher conferences and other formal meetings.
    - b. Providing comprehensive information through the district's website, [www.lennox.k12.sd.us](http://www.lennox.k12.sd.us). This information includes all district policies, agendas and minutes of School Board meetings, data profiles and performance reports for all schools, and state report card.
    - c. Providing an opportunity for parents/guardians and community members to respond to news and announcements through District Communication Tools; Twitter, Remind App, Class Dojo, School website, Announcements, Emails/Texts, along with being 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, and
    - f. Facilitate information from parents through online surveys.
- 4. The Lennox School District will build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement and develop strategies to support successful school and family interactions.**
  - a. The district will work with a Federal Programs Coordinator to facilitate the development of District parent and family engagement.
  - b. The district will facilitate 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.
  - c. The district 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.

- d. The district will coordinate training with community resources to enhance engagement opportunities in the district.
  - e. Teachers will provide students academic opportunities to strengthen connections to school-home and community resources and/or learning tools for students to take home.
- 5. The Lennox School District 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 district will meet annually with building administrators involved in Early Childhood Programs, Migrant Education, McKinney Vento, and English Learner programs and will review reports and plans for parent and family engagement to identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for reinforcing involvement.
  - b. The district will consult and communicate with parents and program representatives to ensure smooth transitions; For example: B-3, Head Start, Kindergarten, and other transitional grades.
- 6. The Lennox School District 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.**
- a. Evaluation of Title I programs and staying current with Title I rules and regulations. The superintendent and Director of Student Services will advise and support Title I schools; such as meeting with principals on a regular basis to keep them informed.
  - b. Evaluation of School-Parent-Student Compacts for Title I; others: policies, family engagement.
  - c. Evaluation to identify 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. Evaluation to examine if and how funding set aside for Parent and Family Engagement is spent.
- 7. The Lennox School District will involve parents in the activities served under the Title I Program.**
- a. The Lennox School District will continue to create a safe and welcoming environment where families feel welcome at school.
  - b. The district will continue to inform families of school goals; Strategic Plan and Building Goals.
  - c. The district will provide continued support to staff in the ongoing 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 within the Lennox School District and specific schools their children attend. Each school year, Targeted Assistance Title I schools will implement two or more of the following parent and family engagement strategies that have been effective in school and parent partnership:

- a. Hold 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. Build relationships between teachers and parents, through face-to-face communication, text message, 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, ongoing communication throughout the school year.
- d. Provide updates to parents about school activities; use of the website; activities provided, as well through other modes of communication.
- e. Encourage 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, teacher websites.
- f. Use surveys, focus groups, or other means to collect ongoing information from parents and families as to what information they need.

#### **Part IV. Adoption of District Policy**

This Lennox School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed and agreed on by the Title I Focus Group, which involves parents of students participating in Title I, Part A programs. The Lennox School District will inform all parents of participating Title I, Part A of the Family Engagement Plan, at the beginning of each school year, through email as well as where to locate the plan on the Lennox School District Website.