

Parent Engagement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Wilmington Area Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school will work to ensure that the required school-level Parent Engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school will incorporate this district wide Parent Engagement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A Parent Engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school will involve the parents of children served by Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds-reserved for parent engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Wilmington Area Elementary School supports parent engagement which, means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) *That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning by supporting classroom and building initiatives;*
- (B) *That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) *That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on Principal Advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- (D) *That parents will be involved in the joint development of the Title I Parent-Teacher-Student Compact to outline shared responsibility of improving student achievement. It will be sent home to each student.*

- The school will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parent engagement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

Parents will be invited to review and participate in the development of the district wide parent engagement policy. Parent signatures will be gathered to document their involvement.

2. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

A Parent Satisfaction Survey will be sent to the Title I parents for completion.

3. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

Mr. George Endrizzi. is our Title I liaison for assistance in coordinating parent engagement activities. Student achievement will be impacted through a variety of school sponsored initiatives including tutoring, computer software support, etc.

4. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will coordinate and integrate parent engagement strategies in Part A with parent engagement strategies under the following other programs:

We will inform qualifying students/parents and make them aware of Head Start and the availability of tutors through Westminster College.

5. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parent Engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its Parent Engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its Parent Engagement policies.
 - Parent Satisfaction Surveys will be sent to parents for completion. A review of the surveys will be conducted by the Title 1 staff to coordinate future parent engagement activities.

6. The **Wilmington Area Elementary School** will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
 - A. The school will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph-
 - The State's academic content standards,
 - The State's student academic achievement standards,
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - The requirements of Part A,
 - How to monitor their child's progress, and
 - How to work with educators

 - B. Selected parents are also included in the educational process of the school by participating in RTI, "Child Study" where they are provided individually designed strategies to work with their children at home.
 - Parent /Teacher conferences
 - Principal's Advisory Committee which meets in the fall and spring

 - C. The school will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent engagement, by:
 - Pennsylvania State Parent Conference at Seven Springs in August
 - Parent/Teacher conferences

- The Reading Connection Newsletter will be sent to the Title I parents
 - Title I Reading and Math nights
 - RTIi “Child Study” meetings
- D. The school will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
- The survey of the Title 1 parents will be reviewed and shared with the teachers and staff within the building.
- E. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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:
- Inviting Head Start to district screenings, PTO programs, partnerships with Lawrence County Community Action Partnership and Head Start, local preschools including New Wilmington Presbyterian Preschool.
- F. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that 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 practical, in a language the parents can understand:
- Parents are notified in writing, and if there is information that is not understood, alternative forms of information will be provided, including/but not limited to: printed translations, home visits, and phone contact.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE:

The District wide Parent Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

- Establishing a district wide parent advisory council, ie: The Principal's Advisory Committee, to provide advice on all matters related to parent engagement in Title I, Part A program;
- Providing other reasonable support for parent engagement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

Parents are able to suggest changes or amendments to the Parent Engagement policy.

If you have no changes or amendments, please check the box provided here.