

Alba-Golden ISD District Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2019-2020

Alba-Golden Independent School District is dedicated to providing a quality education for every student in the district. It is our belief that educational benefits are derived from a strong partnership between the school, parents, family members, caregivers, students, and the community. Sound communication, cooperative interaction, and a firm commitment to share responsibility for the success of our students are vital factors in the Alba-Golden ISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

The Alba-Golden Independent School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements.

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in each of its schools regarding Title I, Part A programs, and non-Title I 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 and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parent and family engagement policy into its Local Educational Agency (LEA) plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement policy requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and family members understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents and family members of participating children, the school district will submit any parent or family member comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.

- The school district will involve parents and family members of children served with Title I, Part A funds in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools, if the required allocation is met by the district.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring--
 - (A) that parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - (B) that parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - (C) that parents and family members 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;
 - (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION:

1. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parent and family engagement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA.

The Alba-Golden ISD District Site Based Committee will develop the district written parent and family engagement policy jointly with the Special Programs Director. Parents and family members will also participate in decision making by serving on Campus Site Based Committees and a designated Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement meeting. Meetings will be scheduled at convenient times such as in the morning, evening or individually with the Special Programs Director. Parents and family members will be actively recruited and encouraged to attend meetings through various district notification systems which may include, but are not limited to, parent notification app, school marquee and district website. This annual meeting is where parents and family members will learn about the requirements of the Title I, Part A program and about opportunities to become involved with their child's education. The annual meeting will be held during the first nine-week grading period.

2. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA.

The Alba-Golden ISD District Site Based Committee, jointly with the Special Programs Director, will review and improve the district written parent and family engagement policy yearly prior to distribution of the policy to parents and family members in the fall. Parents and family members will also participate in decision making by serving on Campus Site Based Committees and a designated Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement meeting. Meetings will be scheduled at convenient times such as in the morning, evening or individually with the Special Programs Director. Parents and family members will be actively recruited and encouraged to attend meetings through various district notification systems which may include, but are not limited to, parent notification app, school marquee and district website.

3. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will provide necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist its schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

Alba-Golden ISD will provide a district meeting of parents, family members, community members, and campus personnel to provide feedback and input on campus plans, policies, and budget allocations.

The District Special Programs Director will be available to serve in an advisory capacity to each campus.

Alba-Golden ISD will monitor each campus to ensure that the following documents are in place: Parent and Family Engagement Policy, use of School-Parent Compacts, flexible meetings times offered to conference with teachers to monitor student progress, and real time access to student attendance and academic standing.

4. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under other programs.

Where appropriate, the district will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies and opportunities at the campus level with other programs such as: pre-kindergarten programs, special education programs, ESL instructional programs, reading programs, math programs and family literacy night programs.

5. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents and families, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family 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 and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents and family members) its parent and family engagement policy.

Alba-Golden ISD will survey parents and family members to evaluate the effectiveness of the program including (but not limited to) parent and family engagement strategies and barriers to greater participation.

This survey will be offered in the spring and disaggregated in the comprehensive needs assessment process in order to assist in the development of the district and campus improvement plans.

6. The Alba-Golden Independent School District will build capacity for strong parent and family member engagement between its schools, parents, family members and the community in order to ensure effective involvement and to support a partnership among all stakeholders to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or 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 Title I, Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators.

In order to foster parent and family engagement, the school district, with the assistance of its schools, will provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve their child's academic achievement. Training and materials may include literacy training, online learning for parents, technology usage, and parent newsletters.

The school district will (with the assistance of its schools, parents, and family members) educate its teachers, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents and family members, and in how to implement and coordinate parent and family engagement programs and build ties between parents, family members and its schools.

The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities such as family literacy night programs, parent and family member volunteer programs, as well as, other activities that encourage and support parents and family members in participating to the fullest extent possible in the education of their children.

The school district will ensure that information related to its schools and parent and family engagement programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

All required documents, including this parent and family engagement policy, are posted on the district website. An online translation system is available to assist with communication.

PART III. POLICY DEVELOPMENT, REVIEW, REVISION AND DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT

This District Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This policy will be reviewed and revised annually. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents and family members by way of the student handbook and district website.