

Combined LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy Framework

Charter LEAs may choose to follow this sample framework to ensure all required components under Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for both the LEA- and school-level parent and family engagement policies are included in one document.

A) Jointly Developed

Describe how parents and family members will be involved in the development of the school parent and family engagement policy.

B) Parent/Family Input

1. Describe how parents and family members will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parent and family engagement programs.
2. Describe how the school will provide parents and family with the opportunity for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate in decision making regarding their children's education.
3. Describe how parents and family will be involved in the development of the schoolwide plan.

C) Annual Title I Meeting

Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents and family of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' right to be involved.

D) Communication

1. Describe how the school will notify parents and family of the engagement policy in an understandable format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
2. Describe how the school will notify parents and family with timely information about Title I programs.

E) School-Parent/Family Compact

Describe the process the school will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents/families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement.

F) Capacity Building

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1. Describe how the school will build parent and family capacity for strong parental and familial engagement.
2. Describe how the school will provide materials and training to help parents and families to work with their children to improve academic achievement (e.g., literacy training, using technology, etc.)
3. Describe how the school will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents and families, in the value and usefulness of parent/family contributions; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as **equal partners**; implement and coordinate parent programs; and build ties between parents/families and the school.
4. Describe how the school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities (e.g., parent resource centers) that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children.
5. Describe how the school will ensure that information related to school and parent and family programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the family can understand.
6. Describe how the school will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities as parents/families may request.

G) Annual Evaluation

1. Describe how the LEA (charter) includes parents and family members in conducting an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy and identifies:
 - a. barriers to engagement of parents and families (especially families who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, of limited English or literacy proficiency, or of any racial or ethnic minority.)
 - b. needs that parents and families have that may prevent them from helping with their children's learning and from engaging with school staff.
 - c. strategies to support successful family-school interactions.
2. Describe how the LEA (charter) will use the findings of the annual evaluation to design strategies for more effective family engagement and to revise family engagement policies.

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