

MONTOURSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Loyalsock Valley Elementary Title 1 Parent Engagement Policy

2021-2022

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

1. The school has implemented the following statutory requirements:

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

Parental involvement 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;

(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 to assist in the education of their child;

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in ESSA.

PART II. **DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its parental involvement plan under ESSA:
 - Review the policy at its annual “Family Night” meeting and amend as appropriate. (*COVID 19 restrictions may alter plans for in-person activities due to visitor restrictions as per state guidance and district health safety plan.*)
2. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under ESSA:
 - Review student performance data annually with the School Board and parents
3. The school will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in its Title 1, Part A program with parental involvement strategies with the following other programs:
 - Various Pre-School Programs
 - PTO Associations
4. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools.
 - The school will conduct an annual survey of all Title 1 parents and consider their input for any possible changes to the program as appropriate.

5. The school will build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, 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 in understanding topics such as the following via its annual Parent Night activity and individual meetings:

- the State's Common Core 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. The school will provide materials and information to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement including:

- a list of technology resources
- "take-home" materials associated with the balanced literacy program

C. The school will 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:

- Including it as a topic annually in faculty meetings
- Providing various professional development activities

D. 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, 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:

- Participation in county/community groups focusing on transition
- Conducting an annual meeting with parents of all incoming Kindergarten students (*-COVID restrictions may alter ability to conduct this annual session)

E. The school 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 practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- District website information and postings
- Annual parent surveys
- District report card

PART III.

DISCRETIONARY PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT COMPONENTS

A. The school may take the following steps to encourage parental involvement when these steps are deemed reasonable and necessary:

- providing literacy and technology training for parents
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting phone or video conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under ESSA as parents may request.