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| Book         | Policy Manual              |
| Section      | 900 Community              |
| Title        | Title I Parent Involvement |
| Code         | 918                        |
| Status       | Active                     |
| Adopted      | July 16, 2003              |
| Last Revised | August 18, 2021            |

### **Purpose**

The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents/guardians, families and community.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

### **Authority**

All Local Education Agencies (LEA) receiving Title I funds are required under Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the LEA. The ESSA states that the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy must be jointly developed with parents and family members, incorporated into the LEA plan (Consolidated Application), and agreed on with and distributed to parents of participating children in a format and language that parents can understand. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

### **Guidelines**

The Pocono Mountain School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

\*If in person is not possible for some meetings and events, they will be held virtually when possible.

1. The district will involve parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Plan (Title I Application) (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)) and will take the following action:
  - Invite parent and family members to Title I meeting to review, provide feedback and revise the district-level Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
2. The district will involve parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)) and will take the following action:
  - Invite parents, guardians and family members to participate on the Professional Development Committee and Comprehensive School Planning Committees.
1. The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the district in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(B)) and will take the following actions:
  - Communicate regularly with school administrators to support the implementation for parent and family activities.
  - Visit each school regularly to assure school-level parent and family engagement plans are being implemented.
  - District technical support will be provided as requested.
2. The district will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other federal, state, and local laws and programs (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(C)) and will take the following action:
  - Form and maintain partnerships with community advocacy groups to promote the coordination and integration of parent and family engagement strategies.
  - Communicate to parents and families the offering of programs available through community partner organizations.
3. The district will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality

of all schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, 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 needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii)) and will take the following actions:

- Invite parent and family members to Title I meeting to review, provide feedback and revise the district-level Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
  - Distribute and collect Annual Parent and Family Engagement Survey.
  - Provide meeting invitation and Parent Family Engagement survey in a format and language parents and family members can understand.
4. The district will use the findings of the above-stated evaluation to design evidence based strategies for more effective parent and family involvement, and revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(E)).
- Data from Title I Parent and Family Engagement surveys will be used to evaluate and if necessary revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
5. The district will involve parents and family members in the activities of the school, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members to adequately represent the needs to the population served by the district for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(F)) and will take the following actions:
- Invite parent and family members to Title I meeting to review, provide feedback and revise the district-level Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
  - Provide notice of Parent and Family Engagement Activities through website, flyers, and automated phone calls.

If the district receives \$500,000 or more and are required to set aside 1%, funds shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than one of the following:

- Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for district and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(i)).
- Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school. (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(ii)).
- Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iii)).
- Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate with, community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iv)).
- Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the district determines are appropriate and consistent with the district’s Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(v)).

### Adoption

The district’s Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. The district will distribute the Parent and Family Engagement Policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children.

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| Legal | 1. 20 U.S.C. 6318      |
|       | 2. Pol. 102            |
|       | 20 U.S.C. 6312         |
|       | 20 U.S.C. 6318         |
|       | 20 U.S.C. 7845         |
|       | 24 P.S. 510.2          |
|       | 29 U.S.C. 3271 et seq  |
|       | 29 U.S.C. 701 et seq   |
|       | 42 U.S.C. 11301 et seq |
|       | 42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq  |

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