

Highland Elementary School

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Ephrata Area School District

Parent and family engagement is a vital part of Highland Elementary School's Title I program. It is the school's expectation that parents have an opportunity to be involved in the development of the Title I Plan and in the school's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parent and family engagement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The school provides coordination, technical assistance, and other necessary support in the planning and implementation of parent and family engagement activities. The school encourages parent and family engagement while supporting partnerships between home/school/community by providing understandable information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children and to involve other parents; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parental contributions; and developing meaningful roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

Highland Elementary School's parent and family engagement policy is jointly developed by a committee made up of teachers, parents, and administration. This policy is distributed to parents during the fall Title One meeting. The parent and family engagement policy is as follows:

1. Invite parents to participate in writing and revising the Parent and Family Engagement Policy on at least a yearly basis. Copies will be sent home and available on the school's website and in the office.
2. Provide information about the Title I program during an annual meeting and as part of open house in the fall.
3. Offer opportunities for parents to participate in workshops and conferences that are offered at times flexible with parents' schedules.
4. Utilize Title I funds to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation, childcare, or home visit expenses to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and/or training sessions.
5. Provide opportunities for parents to give feedback or suggestions for improvement of school and academic programs, including, but not limited to, Title I programs and the School Level Comprehensive Plan.
6. Provide updates about Title I programs through PTO meetings, written notifications, annual meeting, and newsletters.
7. Provide information that assists parents in understanding all national, state, and local student performance standards and assessments. This will occur through annual curriculum nights, standards information sent home at the beginning of each year, report cards, and conferences.
8. Provide information about school programs, curriculum, assessments, and student progress through conferences and informational sessions.
9. Invite and include parents to participate in the development of the School Compact.
10. Provide materials and training to assist parents in working with their children to improve their children's achievement. Examples include, but are not limited to: literacy training, using technology, math take-home games. Curriculum nights and student planners will also be utilized to communicate with parents
11. When the LEA receives more than \$500,000 or more in Title I funds, 1% will be set aside to carry out activities to support family engagement.

At Highland Elementary school, our goal is to provide a quality education to all students. It is of highest importance that families, students, and educators work together to provide this opportunity for all of our students.