



Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Year 2020 - 2021

Revision Date: 05/11/20

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **John F. McCloskey School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The **John F. McCloskey School** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school

- (C) Parents 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED

John F. McCloskey School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- Invite parents and families to attend the monthly School Advisory Council meetings.
- Solicit opinions/interests of parents and families via surveys and meetings.
- Invite parents and families to share their inputs at the Winter and Spring Title I meetings
- Parents gave input into the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact at the Spring Title I Parent input meeting on May 11, 2020.

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

John F. McCloskey School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- Communicate the date and time of the Annual Title I Meeting via the school calendar, school website, flyer, and school messenger
- All families/parents will be invited to the Annual Title I Meeting that will be held in Fall. At this meeting, information will be given to parents about the requirements of Title I Part A, teacher qualifications and parent rights to know, state academic content standards and assessments, working with parents as equal partners, monitoring and tracking student progress and school curriculum.
- Present information to parents and families at our annual Back to School Night, Home and School Association meeting, Coffee with Principal and other meetings
- Meetings are held at different times in order to encourage different family participation

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

John F. McCloskey School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children with (1) Timely information about the Title I programs, (2) Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, (3) transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement and may use Title I funds and (4) 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.

- 1) Distribute the parent policies to all parents in the Fall
- 2) Have copies of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy available on the Parent and Family Resource Table that is located by the Main Office.
- 3) Provide information on the school website
- 4) Send information via an email blast
- 5) Inform families about Parent and Family Portal and offering trainings
- 6) Meetings will be held at various times to accommodate parent schedules.
- 7) All communication will be sent home to families in parent-friendly language and can be translated into multiple languages through the district's Family and Communication Engagement Office as necessary and requested.

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

John E. McCloskey School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- Invite parents and families to attend the monthly School Advisory Council meetings
- Solicit opinions/interests of parents and families via surveys and meetings
- Invite parents and families to share their inputs at the Winter and Spring Title I meetings
- Parents gave input into the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact at the Spring Title I Parent input meeting on May 11, 2020

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

John E. McCloskey School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- During the Winter Title I Parent meeting, parents will be invited to share in the schools budget process. Parents will have an opportunity to make suggestions on allocated funds, including ways to spend the 1% parent engagement set aside from Title I. During the Title I Spring meeting, parents will join staff to discuss the spend down the allocated set-aside for parents.
- The Winter Title I Parent Meeting was held on December 19, 2019

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

John E. McCloskey School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public

preschool 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:

- Inform parents and community members via school website about available programs and services through the Office of Specialized Services and the Office of Family and Community Engagement
- Provide information to preschool programs about registration, Kindergarten Open House, and school-community events
- Bushfire Theatre of the Performing Arts provides 5th and 6th graders to support and improve literacy.
- Enon Tabernacle, Mt. Airy Education Coalition, Darrick Bernard Clark Foundation provides resources to school to improve climate, safety and culture.
- Fox Chase Farms invites 1st and 2nd grade students to join them once a week.

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

John F. McCloskey School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

1. Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
 2. Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
 3. Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - a) The challenging State's academic standards
 - b) The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - c) The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - d) How to monitor their child's progress
 - e) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
- During the Annual Title I Meeting held in the Fall, parents will be provided the opportunity to obtain information about the State's academic standards, the state's local academic assessments and the requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - Parents will learn how to monitor their child's progress through parent workshops, and also receive information about working with educators. A powerpoint presentation with this information is available for parents to take home.
 - Teachers will give parents information about school curriculum during report card conferences and at back to school night.

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

John F. McCloskey School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

In the Fall, the Principal will conduct a professional development session for staff on how to work effectively with parents as equal partners. Parent survey data feedback will be discussed to ensure staff understand the needs of parents and how to best involve parents in their child’s education.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY DISCRETIONARY COMPONENTS

- Provide necessary literacy training for parents to support school-home connections
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child’s education,
- Develop partnerships with community –based organizations and partners



Principal’s Signature

5-11-2020

Date