

Worth County School District

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2022-2023
Revised June 1, 2022
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What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members 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.
- (C) That 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Worth County School District (WCSD) has developed this parent and family engagement policy that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe WCSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. The WCSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

Jointly Developed

During the annual Federal Programs Stakeholder Input Meeting in March 2022, all parents and community members were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement policy for the 2022-2023 school year. The district posted an invitation to the meeting on social media platforms and the district website to inform parents. Each school also posted a copy of the invitation on their websites, parent portals, and social media platforms. During this meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP) and the District Improvement Plan. A copy of the final draft was also posted on the district website along with a survey for parents to provide additional feedback before the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan was incorporated into the CLIP which was submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to your child's school. All feedback received by May 25, 2022 was considered for revisions to this policy.

The district's plan to distribute this policy is to post it on district and school websites, disseminate it during the annual Title I school meetings in the fall, and email

the link to all parents in a format and language they can understand.

Strengthening Our Schools

This year, the Federal Programs Director will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the Federal Programs to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the Federal Programs Director will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals and school Family Engagement Coordinators to review family engagement plans and activities.

Reservation of Funds

The WCSD will reserve at least 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 2022-2023 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in federal law. Furthermore, the WCSD will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I school participated in the annual Federal Programs Stakeholder Input meeting held in March 2022 for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds

could be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Notes from open discussions from these meetings were reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget. If you have suggestions, please contact the Federal Programs Director in the district office.





Opportunities for Meaningful Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to participate in two opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Annual Federal Programs Stakeholder Input Meeting ~ March 2023

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Worth County School District as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement plan and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Parents and other stakeholders will have two opportunities to participate in an in-person meeting. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website, parent portal, and social media outlets.

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The surveys will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit <https://bit.ly/FAMILYINPUT> to leave your input.



Scan the code with your smartphone or tablet to access family engagement information from the WCSD website.

Building Capacity

The WCSD will build partnerships between its Title I Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop capacity for this support, the WCSD will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives

Of Parents - The WCSD will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The district works with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information related to the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided. The district also offers assistance to parents in understanding use of its online student information system (Infinite Campus) and other digital resources, including the harms of copyright piracy, through its technology specialists. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems and social media postings.

The WCSD will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs such as, the local Headstart program and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, schools will host middle and high school transition nights and College and Career Fairs so parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff - The WCSD will conduct four trainings during the school year for principals and school Family Engagement Coordinators to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, the parent portal, district and school websites, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the WCSD will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the Federal Programs Stakeholder Input meetings.

Beginning in March, each Title I school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school

websites for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also use the annual Federal Programs Stakeholder Input meetings to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of parents of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The WCSD will use the findings from the input meetings and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement plans.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, Family Engagement Coordinators will communicate and collaborate with the Federal Programs Director to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

Annual Parent Survey
March 1 - 31, 2023

Annual Federal Programs
Stakeholder Input Meeting
March 2023 –
Worth Co. Board Office

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual Federal Programs Stakeholder Input meeting.

This plan was adopted by the Worth County School District on June 1, 2022 and will be in effect for the 2022-2023 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before or during the first week of fall semester.

