



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

J. D. Dickerson Primary

2017-2018

10/01/2017

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **J. D. Dickerson Primary 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).

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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 school wide 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 school wide 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

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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.

Parents and community members are invited to participate and to give feedback to the school in a variety of ways. Parents and community members are part of our school governance team, PTO and volunteers in the school. They are asked to participate in various events and asked for input through direct communication, emails, telephone calls, Remind 101 and surveys.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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 and 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 school wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

The Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school’s participation as well as the parents’ rights to be involved will be held within the first month of school in the evening. The meeting will be advertised and attendance will be strongly encouraged by direct communication, the student’s folders, signs, and commercial broadcast.

COMMUNICATIONS

J. D. Dickerson Primary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement
- 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

The school regularly communicates with parents using student folders, e-mails, text messaging, Remind 101, as well as commercial advertising.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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.

An introduction and invitation for parent involvement is offered by PTO during each program, new student orientation, open house, and parent orientation to encourage parents and community members to be actively involved. We provide interpreters and translators at conferences and school programs. J. D. Dickerson staff members are available to communicate with parents through various methods: school newsletters, student planners, email, Facebook, school website and phone calls. Parents are invited to provide input and assist in making decisions regarding their child's education. We provide opportunities for parental input into our Title I documents, compact, parental involvement policy and school wide plan. During our Parent Orientation at the beginning of the year, we share the expectations and goals for student learning, as well as student data, to allow parents to work with us in setting high goals for their child.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **J. D. Dickerson Primary School** will 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.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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:

- 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
- 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
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

J. D. Dickerson Primary 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.

During our Parent Orientation at the beginning of the year, we share the expectations and goals for students learning as well as student data to allow parents to work with us in setting high goals for their child.

J. D. Dickerson Primary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request.

Our School Leadership Team meets once a month. As the school level leadership team, we serve as the foundation for actively involving the school, community, and parents in the various activities that engage our students academically as well as engaging them in community efforts to create a well-rounded student. Our goal is to develop innovative activities which enhance the learning environment for all students.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

POLICY COMPONENTS

J. D. Dickerson staff members are available to communicate with parents through various methods: school newsletters, student planners, email, Facebook, school website and phone calls. Parents are invited to provide input and assist in making decisions regarding their child's education. We provide opportunities for parental input into our Title I documents, compact, parental involvement policy & school wide plan.

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- Establish a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

Learning activity programs such as APTT where parents come and learn ways to help their child succeed. A quarterly newsletter is provided to help keep parents informed as well as give them valuable tips on how they can help their child succeed in school.