

Dorchester School District Four

Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Goal 1: The district will foster effective parent and family engagement strategies and support partnerships among schools, parents, and the community to improve student achievement.

1. Coordinate Title I, Part A parent and family engagement activities with other district-level programs.
2. Maintain a district-level Title I Parent and Family Engagement Committee to promote parent and family engagement in the Title I Part, A schools.
3. Ensure that the Title I, Part A Parent and Family Engagement Committee meets at least twice each school year – once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester.
4. Review the district’s parent and family engagement policy annually and revise it accordingly as a part of the next school year’s Title I, Part A program planning process.
5. Ensure that the most recently updated version of the district’s parent and family engagement policy is disseminated to parents at the beginning of each school year.
6. Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
7. Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community.
8. Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that include roles for parents.
9. Provide training and resources for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and other strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their children.
10. Assist school staff in developing volunteer opportunities for parents.
11. Provide information to participating parents regarding such areas as national, state, and local education goals.
12. Where possible, provide additional support for parent involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A schools and parents.

Goal 2: The district will conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parent participation and identifying barriers to greater parent participation.

1. Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that the following tasks are performed:
 - i. Provide information to parents about the school’s programs and the academic progress of their children;
 - ii. Provide training for parents on working with their children to improve academic achievement;
 - iii. Convene an annual meeting to inform parents more specifically about the school’s Title I, Part A schoolwide plan;
 - iv. Include parent participation in the annual meeting(s) designated for planning the next school year’s Title I, Part A schoolwide plan;
 - v. Develop, revise as needed, and disseminate a school-level parent and family engagement policy and a school-parent compact on an annual basis; and
 - vi. Offer flexible meeting times for parents.
2. Develop and implement procedures for collecting parent participation documentation such as sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
3. Provide parents with an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions on improving district and school effectiveness through participation in an annual district-administered survey.
4. Provide an opportunity for parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including the analysis of data collected.
5. Use findings from the evaluation process to do the following:
 - i. Revise the district’s parent and family engagement policy as necessary;
 - ii. Make recommendations to each participating Title I, Part A school regarding revisions to the school’s parent and family engagement policy and school-parent compact; and
 - iii. Provide suggestions to the district and schools for developing additional improvement policies, as they relate to parent and family engagement.