



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Cary Reynolds Elementary School
2017-2018
Revision Date 9/6/17 and 10/19/17

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Cary Reynolds ES 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).

Cary Reynolds ES 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

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Cary Reynolds ES 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.

Stakeholder Input Meetings Annual Title 1 Meeting Parent Planning Meetings Parent Coffee and Conversation Meetings

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Cary Reynolds ES 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.

Meeting Date: September 6, 2017 Informed via: school website, parent calendar, school marquee, Class Dojo posting, flyers, parent bulletin board

COMMUNICATIONS

Cary Reynolds ES 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:

Policy distribution: Annual Title 1 Meeting, school website, front office, parent bulletin board

Communication tools: school website, parent calendar, school marquee, Class Dojo postings, flyers, parent bulletin board, interpreters/translations

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Cary Reynolds ES 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.

Stakeholder Input Meetings

Coffee and Conversation Meetings

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Cary Reynolds ES 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:

Shared via: Title 1 Annual Meeting, school website, front office

Parental input via: Stakeholder Input Meetings, Parent Academy, Coffee and Conversation

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Cary Reynolds ES 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:

Solicit community partnerships

Work collaboratively with community volunteers and organizations

Participate in the annual Region 1 Title 1 Parent Conference

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Cary Reynolds ES 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

Parent-teacher conferences, Annual Title 1 Meeting, Parent Academy, Literacy Night, Math Night, Science Night, Coffee and Conversation, Curriculum Night, GA Milestones Parent Night, Kinder Camp

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Cary Reynolds ES 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:

School staff will participate in workshops during staff meetings in an effort to increase their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Staff members will discuss strategies and develop ideas to enhance communication, resources, etc. The Title 1 Parent Survey results will be used to provide feedback and parent input to strengthen ties between home, school and community.

Cary Reynolds ES will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

Parent-teacher conferences, RtI Tier 2 and Tier 3 meetings and interpreters/translations and Campus Beautification events

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

POLICY COMPONENTS

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- X 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.
- X 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 districtwide 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.

Literacy Training:

Host a variety of literacy-based parent workshops and meetings, including Literacy Night, Parent Academy and Coffee and Conversation

Invite parents to Author Celebrations in the K-5 classrooms during Writer's Workshop

Support parents' understanding of MAP reading goals and Lexile levels during parent-teacher conferences

Translate parent workshop materials and resources

Maximize Parent and Family Engagement:

Cary Reynolds takes into consideration the time and resource constraints that our parents face throughout the school year. Parents are encouraged to conference with teachers at any time, but because most parents work during school hours, we offer evening conferences. In addition, we encourage parents to use Class Dojo, an app on their phones, to communicate with teachers whenever it is most convenient for their schedules. Our parent workshops and meetings will be scheduled at a variety of days and times, offering morning, afternoon and evening options.