

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN

TITLE I PROGRAM

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

2017-18 School Term

It is the policy of the School District of the City of Allentown to encourage and assist school staff in building capacity for parent and family engagement at the school level in order for parents to help their children achieve high standards. In keeping with this policy, we believe that effective parent involvement in the Title I Program can best be accomplished at the building level by involving parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I program.

Schools will provide opportunities for parent and family engagement, so that a flexible number of opportunities will be given to parents to understand and become involved in the school program. An Annual Title I Parent Meeting for the parents of all students in the program will be held at each school. This meeting will be designed to help parents learn about the requirements of Title I, Part A and the school Title I program. Other parent and family engagement activities offered at the school level will be designed to assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic standards, the assessments being used, and how to monitor their children's progress and work with educators to improve their achievement. The schools will also conduct meetings in which the parents have the opportunity to plan, review, and improve the Title I program. A review of the school's Title I Parent Involvement Policy to determine its effectiveness on increasing the academic quality of the school will be included in these meetings.

In addition to formal meetings and workshops, the parents of Title I students will be invited to raise their concerns and make recommendations at any time through the parental meetings, schoolwide team, annual review team, building principal, classroom teachers, and the Director of Grants & Development. The school district and schools will make timely responses to the concerns and recommendations of the parents and will provide reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents may request.

Parents of each participating student in the Title I Program will be informed of their child's participation in the program, given a school/parent learning compact, invited to all Title I parent meetings, and given reasonable access to the school and school staff. parent and family engagement will be kept informed of their children's progress through a combination of formal reports, parent/teacher conferences, open house sessions, parent workshops. Student progress will be reported in terms of classroom performance and individual assessment results. School staff will interpret the assessment results to the parents to give them a clear understanding of their children's progress in terms of state academic standards and assessments.

Each school will inform parents of parent and family engagement requirements and other relevant provisions of the Title I Program. Title I funds will be allocated for parent and family engagement activities in accordance with the school's parental meeting recommendations. All communication, to the extent possible, will be provided in the native language of the parent.

A districtwide Title I Parent Advisory Committee will offer additional help in building the capacity for strong parent and family engagement throughout all Title I schools. The committee members will serve as liaisons between the districtwide Advisory Committee and the schools' parental meetings. They will share parent and family engagement information about their schools with the Advisory Committee and will share information learned at the district committee meetings at their schools' parent and family engagement meetings. This information will include information about the coordination and development of successful parent and family engagement programs. This committee will also assist in the annual evaluation of the district's parent and family engagement Policy.

The School District of the City of Allentown is committed to increasing parent and family engagement opportunities throughout the district. We believe that it is critical for all parents to make positive connections with their child's school and teachers so that they can become actively involved with their child's schooling. The parent and family engagement opportunities provided by each school through the Title I Program give all parent and family engagement access to the staff of each school and enable them to support the learning experiences of their children. Parent and family engagement is critical to the success of the students.

