

## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

The board of directors of Communities In Schools of Robeson County acknowledges the significance of family engagement in a child's academic success and is certain that the education of children is an ongoing collaborative partnership between the home and the school. Parents and other family members are their children's first teachers; therefore, the continued involvement of parents and family members in the educational process is most important in nurturing and increasing educational achievement. School officials shall strive to support parents and provide parents and family members with meaningful opportunities to become involved in the programs offered by our Title I school. The board encourages parents and family members to participate in the design and implementation of the programs and activities in order to increase the effectiveness of the schools Title I program in helping students meet state and local achievement standards.

### **A. DEFINITION OF PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

For the purposes of this policy, the term "parent and family engagement" means the participation of parents, guardians, and other family members in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student learning and other school activities, including ensuring the following:

1. That parents and family members play a vital role in supporting their child's learning;
2. That parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. That parents are full partners in their child's education and parents and family members are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
4. That the school uses events to support parent and family engagement in the Title I programs.

### **B. PURPOSE AND OPERATION OF TITLE I PROGRAM**

The Title I program is a federally supported program that offers assistance to educationally and economically disadvantaged children to help ensure they receive an equitable, high-quality, well-rounded education and meet the schools challenging academic standards. The Title I program delivers instructional activities and supportive services to eligible students over and above those provided by the regular school program.

Qualified Title I schools will operate as school-wide programs or targeted assisted programs based upon federal eligibility criteria. School-wide programs will utilize a comprehensive school improvement process enabling schools to serve all students in the school. Targeted assisted programs will provide services to eligible students in school having the greatest need for assistance.

### **C. ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM EVALUATION**

Each year, school officials must invite parents of students participating in Title I programs to a meeting to explain parental rights, discuss the programs and activities to be provided with Title I funds, and

solicit input on the Title I program and this policy. In addition, school officials must provide parents and family members a meaningful opportunity annually to evaluate the content and effectiveness of the Title I programs and the parent and family engagement policies and plans. Information collected from these proceedings will be used to revise Title I programs and parent and family engagement plans.

CIS Academy's annual Title I meeting is held in the fall each year. Communication of this meeting is published on the website, communicated through the Infinite Campus automated phone system, and parent flyers/memos that are sent home with students. Below is a list of the documents/information provided during the annual meeting?

- Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- An explanation of school wide activities and programs
- Information concerning teacher qualifications
- School performance data is shared

Parents are given an opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, offer suggestions for school improvement, and evaluate the content and effectiveness of the Title I programs and plans that the school administration is promoting.

#### **D. PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS**

The board believes that the involvement of Title I parents and family members in the design and implementation of the Title I program will increase the effectiveness of the program and contribute significantly to the success of the children. The Title I staff and all school personnel shall strive to conduct outreach to parents and family members and involve them in activities throughout the school year.

School leadership shall ensure that this parent and family engagement policy and plan is developed with, agreed upon with and annually distributed to parents and family members of participating students.

In addition, school officials and Title I school personnel shall do the following:

1. involve parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I program and school support and improvement plan and the process of school review and improvement by including parents on the school advisory committee and any committees that review the Title I program;
  - Hold a flexible number of meetings at various times of the day
  - Notify and communicate with parents through a variety of medium to include automated the phone system, memos/newsletters and the web page
  - The school will jointly develop with parents and distribute to parents a Parental involvement Policy that the school and parents agree upon
  - Parent representative/representatives on the School Improvement Team
  - Parent Advisory Committee
2. provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities that are designed to improve student academic achievement and school performance;

- Describe and explain the curriculum in use at the school
  - Explain academic assessments (local and state) used to measure student progress
  - Provide materials and training such as literacy training and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement and foster parent involvement
  - Make the School Improvement Plan accessible
3. coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in the Title I program to the extent feasible and appropriate with parental engagement strategies established in other federal, state, and local laws and programs;
- Family Nights
  - Offer training to parents to improve student success and achievement (monitoring student progress and how to work with educators)
  - Provide training for parent volunteers
4. with the meaningful involvement of parents, conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the school's parent and family engagement policy and program in improving the academic quality of the school and assisting students to meet the school's academic standards. This evaluation shall identify the following:
- a. barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
  - b. the needs or parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers, and;
  - c. strategies to support successful school and family interactions.
- Engage parents by means of surveys, parent/teacher conferences, and family night events. In situations that prevent parents from coming to the school for meeting, school personnel may make home visits or arrange to meet parents at a mutually convenient time off campus.
  - Bring in translators, as necessary, to engage limited English language parents. As needed, provide information in another language or in another format.
  - Provide parent training around areas of curriculum, assessments, and data collection to insure that the language/definitions are clear in order to engage parents and increase student achievement.

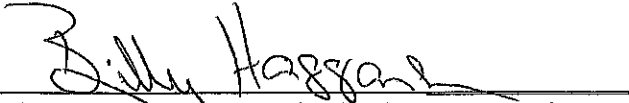
The school will use these findings to design, evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policy.

## **E. ADOPTION**

The CIS Academy Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Procedures have been developed/revised jointly with, and agreed upon with parents as evidenced by meeting minutes.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Procedures were developed/revised by CIS Academy on 08/28/24 and will be in effect for the period of 2024-2025. The school will distribute these Parent and

Family Engagement Policy/Procedures to all parents and make it available to the community on or before 09/09/2024.



Signature of Title I Authorized Representative

8/28/24

Date