

## **Title I, Part A LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

**Ánimo Florence-Firestone Charter Middle School** with parents and family members, has jointly developed, mutually agreed upon, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children a written Local Educational Agency (LEA) parent and family engagement policy.

### **Describe how parents and family members are involved in the development of the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement policy (ESSA Section 1116[a][2]):**

The purpose of this Policy is to engage parents in meaningful ways for the LEA to receive parental input and involvement in matters that affect their child's education.

To involve parents and family members in the joint development and joint agreement of this Policy, the following documents will be disseminated to parents for review and feedback through e-newsletters, Student Policy Manual, District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) and School Advisory Council (SAC):

1. Title I, Part A LEA-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2. [School-Parent Compact](#)
3. [Parent Notices](#) as they apply to the Title I, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance

### **Describe how parents and family members will be involved in the development of the LEA Plan and support and improvement plans under ESSA Section 1111(d)(1-2) (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][A]):**

To ensure parents and family members are involved in the development of this LEA Plan and support and improvement plans, the school will include topics of discussion and opportunities for feedback in the SAC and DELAC meetings.

The SAC and DELAC meet regularly to review school data, discuss priorities, and contribute to decision-making. The composition of these committees ensure that at least 50% of representation includes parents and students and 51% or more representation of parents respectively.

Members provide input and contribute to the decision-making process, including voting on plans and procedures and providing feedback throughout the year.

**Describe how the LEA provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, and how this may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][B]):**

To provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary and build capacity at schools to plan and implement effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, the LEA's Parent Coordinator or designee will develop ways on how to engage parents throughout the school year and will provide assistance with developing, implementing, and reviewing required plans. In addition, the LEA will create opportunities in the SAC and DELAC to educate parents on how to support their children academically and continue to leverage Parent Conferences to discuss student academic gaps. Furthermore, the LEA will provide assistance to parents with children served by the school in understanding topics such as:

1. State academic content standards
2. State student achievement standards
3. State and Local academic assessments, including alternate assessments
4. Title I requirements
5. How to monitor their child's progress
6. How to work with educators

**Describe how the LEA coordinates or integrates parent and family engagement strategies with other relevant federal, state, local laws, and programs (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][C]):**

Programs and local agencies such as Head Start and Department of Public Social Services will be in communication with the schools. Materials and resources will be shared with Title I schools and will also be shared with these programs and local agencies. In addition, the LEA will have ongoing collaboration with the designated English Learner Coordinator, Director of Special Education, and Foster Youth and Homeless Liaison.

**Describe how the LEA will conduct, with meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Policy on improving academic quality of all schools served under Title I, Part A (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][D]):**

The LEA will continuously research best practices to engage parents and families. We recognize that parents and family play a vital role in supporting their child's learning and that parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school. We view our parents as full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees, such as SAC and DELAC, to assist in the education of their child. One of the ways in which we intend to evaluate the content and effectiveness of this policy is through the Annual Family Survey to measure if parents feel engaged by their school and understand how to voice concerns and provide feedback on this policy.

**Describe how the LEA includes the following in the annual evaluation of the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement policy: identify 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); identify the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and identify strategies to support successful school and family interactions (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][D][i-iii]):**

Barriers to greater participation include, but are not limited to: language, literacy, economic disadvantage, homelessness, and disabilities.

The LEA will disseminate resources and literature to parents in an easy to read format in other languages for students and families that speak a language other than English that constitute fifteen (15) percent or more of a school's enrollment to the extent possible and disseminated in print and/or digital formats. Printed resources may be available at the front office.

In addition, there will be ongoing collaboration with the designated English Learner Coordinator, Director of Special Education, and Foster Youth and Homeless Liaison to support successful school and family interactions.

**Describe how the LEA will use the findings of such evaluation ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii) to design evidence based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policy (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][E]):**

The findings of the evaluations based on the evidence collected through SAC and DELAC committees, in addition to, the Annual Family Survey will be used to develop evidence strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policy.

**Describe how the LEA involves parents in the activities of the schools served under Title I, Part A, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the LEA to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the LEA for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][F]):**

To adequately represent the needs of the population served by the LEA for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy, the LEA will leverage established committees, SAC and DELAC. These committees hold elections on an annual basis to ensure the parent composition is 50% and 51% respectively. Nominations may be made by other parents or parents may self nominate and go through the voting process to be elected. The LEA performs annual outreach to ensure these committees meet the composition requirements.

**Ánimo Florence-Firestone Charter Middle School's** Title I, Part A LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy was developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. The LEA will distribute the Policy to all parents and family members of participating Title I, Part A students annually on or before the first day of school.