



SCHOOL NAME: EASTMONT ELEMENTARY

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

SCHOOL YEAR: 2022-23

Revision Date: 8/15/22

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, [name of school] receives Title I, Part A funds and 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 district.

Eastmont Elementary School 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 targeted assistance or school wide program plan.
- 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 school wide program plan under Section 1114(b) of 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:*
 - *Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning,*
 - *Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school,*
 - *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, and*
 - *Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of ESSA.*

Required School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

The school parent and family engagement policy includes a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components:

- **Jointly Developed**

Eastmont Elementary School 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. Parents are surveyed on site at various events regarding what they need to support their children and how they would like to be engaged in their children's school community. Additionally, the parents are asked to evaluate the success of programs and events held at the school. These events include Title 1 programming, other areas of interest to our parents and families that support and engage them.

- **Annual Title I Meeting**

Eastmont Elementary School 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 school wide plan, and the school-parent compact. The annual Title 1 meeting was held virtual within the first two weeks of school in order to express the critical need for partnership between home and school from the start of the academic year. It was held in conjunction with the Eastmont Open House. All required paperwork was sent out and explained at this virtual meeting. The role of that parents can participate in as a school wide Title 1 school was reviewed. This meeting also shared critical information about the school's role in providing parents with information about meetings, assessments, and teacher qualifications.

- **Communications**

Eastmont Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs,
- Flexible number of virtual meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement, and
- 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.

Communication is delivered through a variety of media to ensure all families are informed of school events and important dates. Classroom communications are sent out virtually through many digital formats and by mail. Parent Square is used to send our information to all families via phone calls, texts, emails, and through the App. The Parent Organization (PTO) sends home information about events. School administration sends home a quarterly newsletter to keep families informed of school events and important dates.

- **School-Parent Compact**

Eastmont Elementary School 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. The School Parent Compact was designed by parents and staff in the interest of aligning goals and responsibilities for all stakeholders at a virtual meeting. Then, it was distributed to families and staff.

- **Reservation of Funds**

Eastmont Elementary School 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 based on the recommendations of Eastmont's Parent Advisory Council Representative and the PAC group. Parents were surveyed to prioritize how they felt the funds would be best spent to enhance the academic and social and emotional growth of children and support families and the school in these dynamic outcomes.

- **Coordination of Services**

Eastmont Elementary School 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. Eastmont families are informed of school programs and outside resources to best support the continued growth of their children and maximize family engagement. Eastmont has a Parent resource room with books, games and resources to borrow and /or keep to support a positive nurturing culture.

- **Building Capacity of Parents**

Eastmont Elementary School 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:

- Provide 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;
- Provide 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; and
- Provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - How to monitor their child's progress,
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child,
 - Review of the state report card and grading of schools is determined,
 - All assessments given to students as benchmarks towards State testing.
 - Opportunities to work with teachers and students within the school and specifically in their children's classrooms to better understand skill development.
 - Strategies and materials to practice skills at home.

- Opportunities to build relationships with teachers to encourage classroom volunteering, home/school journals and fieldtrip event volunteering that supports parent involvement and partnership.
- **Building Capacity of School Staff**
Eastmont Elementary School 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.

Eastmont Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request in writing.

Building Capacity for Involvement

The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of ESSA.

Eastmont Elementary will implement the following to improve the school/family/community partnership:

- Provide events for families to come together as a school community such as:
 - The Open House at the beginning of the year,
 - The Annual Title I meeting,
 - Quarterly Family Night events,
 - The Parent Resource Room,
 - Provide necessary literacy training such as Third Grade Reading Guarantee (TGRG) materials for parents from Title I to use at home in support of their child's reading skills.