
CHESTER COUNTY

Jr. High School
Grit • Growth • Gratitude

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In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Chester County Jr. High receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop, agree on, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. The policy shall be agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describe how the school will implement a number of specific parental and family engagement activities.

Chester County Jr. High understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, and meaningful two-way communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, to ensure:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and families are full partners in their child's education and are included in decision-making and advisory capacities to assist in the education of their child

Chester County Jr. High agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

On Thursday, August 30, 2020, Chester County Jr. High will conduct an annual meeting and encourage all parents of participating children to attend. Due to COVID-19, the meeting will take place virtually, through a Zoom meeting. The nature of the program will be to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, as well as the parents' rights to be involved. An alternate meeting will be offered virtually to parents at their convenience for families who can not attend at night. A video will be posted on the school website of a [virtual](#)

[Open House](#). Also, other [informational videos](#) will be posted on the school website on the following topics: Virtual School Tour, What to Expect, and Dress Code. Finally, informational videos about Summit Learning will be posted on the school website in the <https://jh.chestercountyschools.org/summit> Summit Hub.

FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Due to Covid-19, Chester County Jr. High will conduct all meetings virtually for the safety of our families.

Scheduled meeting for the 2020-2021 school year are:

- Summit Family Week (September/October) - CCJHS wants to inform parents about the academics that are occurring at our school. A series of videos will be highlighted on a variety of topics. The videos will be sent through the Remind App and housed on our school's webpage.
- Sliding in With Science (November) - Students science work will be showcased on a Google Slides presentation. The work will include a variety of Projects from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. The presentation will be put on our school webpage. Their work will be showcased on social media.
- Virtual Poetry Slam (February) - Students ELA work will be showcased on a Padlet Board. The work will include a variety of poems from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Students may post a poem or video of themselves reading the poem. The Padlet will be pushed out to families on social media.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT

Chester County Jr. High will actively 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 school-wide program plan.

Prior to the 2020-2021 school year, a Family Engagement Team consisting of parents/families, teachers, and administrators will be selected. The team will be informed of their parental rights to be involved in the development of a Family Engagement Plan, which will be reviewed and revised at the beginning of the school year. The plan will be posted to the school's website and shared through social media.

CCJHS 2020-2021 Parent and Family Engagement Team Members

Christy McManus, Family Engagement Coordinator

Belinda Anderson, Principal

Jared Shumate, Dean of Student Life

Colette Carrabba, 8th Grade Science Teacher
Christine Varvel, 8th Grade ELA Teacher
Leah Shull, 7th Grade ELA Teacher
Christie Pennington, 7th Grade Math Teacher
Cristy Swope, 7th Grade Math Teacher, Parent
Jacob Miller, SPED Teacher
Katie Maxwell, 6th Grade Teacher
Tanya Harwell, 6th Grade Teacher
Marilyn Davis, ESL Teacher
Amy Eade, Family Resource Director
Heather Griffin, Coordinated School Health
Sandy Thompson, Parent
Becky Hutcherson, Board Member and Parent
Amy Morris, Parent
Rogelio Salvador, Parent
Robin Salvador, Parent

COMMUNICATION

Chester County Jr. High will provide families of participating children timely information about programs under Title I, including:

- a description and explanation of the curriculum in use
- forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress
- achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards
- upon request, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicable possible.

Information related to programs, meetings, and other activities, will be 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.

DISSENSION PROCESS

If the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents, Chester County Jr. High will submit any comments/concerns to Chester County School District Superintendent's office.

Additionally, any comments/concerns can be emailed to the Director of Federal Programs, *Randle Fenimore*, at randle.fenimore@chestercountyschools.org or phone at 731-989-5134.

SCHOOL-PARENT/FAMILY COMPACT

Chester County Jr. High will take the following actions to jointly develop a school-parent/family compact.

The compact will:

- Outline how the school staff, family, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.
- Describe the school's responsibility in providing high quality instruction and curriculum.
- Describe the family and student responsibility for supporting the learning process.
- Address responsibility of teachers and school to provide families reasonable access to staff, updated progress of students, and opportunities to volunteer in the school.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Chester County Jr. High will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs such as Eagles Edge Family Resource/Coordinated School Health Center that encourage and support families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

1. Health screenings and outreach for health-related issues that may disrupt classroom learning (Eagles Edge).
2. "Family and Community Outreach" module - Student Health Council activities such as presentations on leadership, community engagement, anti-tobacco campaign, and healthy communities to community clubs/councils (Eagles Edge).
3. Provide clothing, food, school supplies, glasses and any other basic needs to those children and families who are in poverty or needy situations (Eagles Edge).
4. Work alongside community organizations to provide resources to our homeless families such as housing, food, clothing, etc (Eagles Edge).

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Chester County Jr. High will build the family's capacity for strong family involvement, ensuring effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement. Assistance will be provided to families of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- the State's student academic achievement standards:
 - Open House - standards included in presentation
 - Summit Family Week
 - Post links to standards on school website
 - Bi-Monthly newsletter organized by Family Engagement Coordinator
 - online resources - link standards

- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments:
 - Open House - discuss benchmark assessments
 - CASE benchmark
 - Assessment schedule available on district and school website
- the requirements of Title I, Part A:
 - Annual Title I meeting
 - Online resources - posted on our school's website parent tab
- how to monitor their child's progress:
 - Open House
 - All Calls from principal
 - progress reports
 - CASE assessment data
 - Family/Teacher Conferences
 - Bi-Monthly newsletter organized by Family Engagement Coordinator
 - Family Communication Post Cards
- how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their students:
 - Resources provided by literacy and math coaches
 - PD opportunities

ACCESSIBILITY

Chester County Jr. High in carrying out the family engagement requirements of this part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities, for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

Family volunteers are encouraged to work within the community to garner support for Open House, Family Teacher Conferences, and various other family events. Family and community persons will be made aware of the Family Engagement Meeting through resources such as newsletter, social media, and the school website.

ADOPTION

This school parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

The policy was adopted on September 2, 2020 and will be in effect for the period of the 2020-2021 school year. The school district will make this policy available to all families of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 15, 2020.