



School Parent and Family Engagement



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy Chester County High School 2020-2021 9/2/2020

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Chester County High School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree 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 several specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Chester County High School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve families, 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 improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of families and the school, distribute it to the families 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 families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language families understand.
- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family 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 under this definition:
 - Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - (C) families 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
 - (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Chester County High School will take the following actions to involve families 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 families, 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.

Chester County High School will hold a virtual annual Title I meeting with all parents to discuss the Title I requirements and opportunities. Chester County High School will also meet 2-4 times throughout the school year and will include parent/community members, school faculty, Title I team members, and school administrators. During these meetings, we will discuss how to better utilize school resources, discuss parent concerns/opportunities for their children, and allow input from parents on how to better engage in their child's educational journey. Parents will be involved in creating both the Parent/Family Engagement policy as well as the School Compact via these meetings.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Chester County High School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all families of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the families' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Due to Covid-19 concerns, Chester County High School will hold the Annual Title I meeting via a video recording to inform families of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the families' rights to be involved. The purpose of this meeting will be to disseminate information and distribute copies of the parent and family engagement policy/compact. All information will be sent via Remind and student emails. Parents with questions and/or concerns can contact Lauren Malecha at Lauren.Malecha@Chestercountyschools.org

COMMUNICATIONS

Chester County High School will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:

The parent and family engagement policy will be distributed to families via email, mail, beginning of the year Title I meeting, and available on our website. A Spanish translation will also be available. The school will also conduct parent-teacher conferences twice a year during which the parent has the opportunity to discuss needs with teachers. The Title I team will also have a table set up during these events to be available to answer questions for parents.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Chester County High School will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Parent and community members will be asked to provide feedback in creating the school-parent compact. The annual Title I meeting will be open to discuss the role of Title I in our school and to allow parents opportunities to be included in the additional meetings throughout the school year.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Chester County High School will take the following actions to involve the families 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 by:

1. Purchase an advertisement in the Chester County Independent to promote the parent/student ACT night.
2. Provide supplies for other school-related parent event nights, such as the FAFSA.
3. Provide supplies for other parent involvement events as Covid-19 restrictions allow.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Chester County High 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 families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Coordinating services for parents with:
 - Eagle's Edge (Parent and Family Resource Center)
 - Carl Perkins Child Abuse Prevention Center
 - the Lion's Club
 - Student Health Council
 - CCHS Alumni Association
 - Relay For Life
 - Soil Conservation District
 - Freed Hardeman University
 - Chester County Chamber of Commerce

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Chester County High School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

Providing training on the following or communicating using the following:

1. School Status - Professional Development (two different sessions)
2. Professional Developments
 - a. Thrivist Training
 - b. Website development for school webpages
 - c. Literacy Training with school literacy specialist, LeighAnn Skaggs
3. Parent View on Synergy
4. Teacher Websites
5. Guidance Counselors and Teachers utilize "Remind app" for events and meetings
6. Google Classroom parent access
7. School Twitter account
8. School Marquee Sign
9. School Lunch Announcements
10. Monthly School Newsletter

Chester County High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:

1. Provide support for parents by hosting a VIRTUAL ACT night where students and parents can learn more about the tips/tricks to be successful while taking the ACT. This event covers all 4 ACT subtests and also includes family resources for students to use as practice and preparation for the test.
2. Provide an after-school tutoring program for math and English subjects. Multiple teachers offer extended tutoring.
3. Freshman 4-year plan and course enrollment meetings.
4. Neighborhood bus to provide services, including hotspots and tutoring services, to at-risk neighborhoods.