

# INFINITY CHARTER SCHOOL

POLICY NUMBER	506
SECTION	Community
TITLE	Title I Parent and Family Engagement
APPROVED	November 9, 2021
REVIEWED	October 11, 2022; October 10, 2023
REVISED	

<b>Purpose</b>	To establish the policies and guidelines governing the programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents with the Title I, Part A program, consistent with section 1118 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
<b>Definitions</b>	<p>The school will 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:</p> <p><i>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 –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>A. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;</i></li> <li><i>B. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;</i></li> <li><i>C. that 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;</i></li> <li><i>D. the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESSA.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent with section 1118, the school will ensure that the parent and family engagement policy meets the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESSA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESSA.</li> <li>• In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities 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. The school will provide alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.</li> </ul>

<b>Delegation of Responsibility</b>	The CEO and Title I Coordinator will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A school.
<b>Guidelines</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of the Title I Plan under section 1116 of ESSA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Solicit feedback from parents during regular meetings.</li> <li>b) Share draft application with parents and solicit feedback from them.</li> <li>c) Incorporate parent feedback into the plan before it is submitted.</li> </ol> </li>   <li>2. The School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its schoolwide parent and family engagement plan under section 1112 of the ESSA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Solicit feedback from parents during regular meetings.</li> <li>b) Share draft policy with parents and solicit feedback from them.</li> <li>c) Incorporate parent feedback into the policy before it is brought in front of the Board of Trustees for approval.</li> </ol> </li>   <li>3. The School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESSA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Solicit feedback from parents during regular meetings.</li> <li>b) Provide ongoing parent training on topics related to school improvement.</li> <li>c) Inform parents of their right to be involved in our Title I, Part A program and to request regular meetings via communication with the CEO and Title I Coordinator.</li> <li>d) Provide parents with the contact information for the school's CEO and Title I Coordinator via a posting on the school website.</li> </ol> </li>   <li>4. The School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parental engagement strategies under the following other programs: IDEA, etc. (as applicable).</li>   <li>5. The CEO and Title I Coordinator will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of the school. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental</li> </ol>

engagement activities (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). The school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policy. The evaluation will likely include an annual survey and/or roundtable discussion (i.e. focus group).

6. The School will build the both the staff's and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school staff, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
  - a) The school will provide assistance to parents of children served by the Title I program, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this section:
    - i. the Pennsylvania academic content standards
    - ii. the Pennsylvania student academic achievement standards
    - iii. the State and local assessments, including alternate assessments
    - iv. the requirements of Title I, Part A
    - v. how to monitor their child's progress
    - vi. how to work with school staff.
  - b) Activities will include training provided at Parent and Family Engagement meetings, workshops, communication with home, etc.
  - c) The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
  - d) The school, with the assistance of its parents, will educate its staff in how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions from parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school by providing ongoing professional development.

	<p>e) The school will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in multiple ways: information will be presented in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand. The annual home language survey will help facilitate this.</p> <p>In addition to the parent and family engagement activities listed above, the school will promote parent involvement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities</li> <li>● arranging school meetings at a variety of times in the morning and evenings and providing parents with the opportunity to attend those meetings via Zoom in order to maximize parental engagement and involvement in their child’s education</li> <li>● adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent and family engagement</li> <li>● using the parent representative on the Board of Trustees to provide advice on matters related to parent and family engagement in the Title I, Part A program</li> <li>● developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent and family engagement activities</li> <li>● providing other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.</li> </ul>
<b>References</b>	Sections 1111, 1112, 1116, and 1118 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)