



Whale Pass School SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

As authorized under ESEA, as amended

[School Year 2022-2023]

[Revision Date: 01/26/2023]



Contents

Overview	2
Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components	3
Joint Development	3
Annual Title I, Part A Meeting	3
Communications	3
School-Parent Compact	4
Reservation of Funds	4
Coordination	4
Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members	5
Building Capacity of School Staff	5
Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional	6
Adoption	6

Overview

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Southeast Island School District receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore 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)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. The policy establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The Southeast Island School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in Section 1116 of the ESEA, as amended:

- 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 schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. [§1116(c)(3)]
- Update the school parent and family member policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents and family members of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community. [§1116(b)(1)]
- In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have 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 of the ESEA, as amended, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. [§1116(e)(4)]
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA, as amended, 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 district. [§1116(c)(5)]
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
 - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - 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; and
 - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116. [§8101(39)]

Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

Joint Development

Whale Pass School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A 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.

Whale Pass School holds monthly ASC meetings, which due to the school's small size is generally attended by all parents and/or guardians, and often by relatives such as grandparents and uncles/aunts and other stakeholders. A Zoom Meeting link is always provided to parents and guardians who are unable to attend the meetings in person. Individual parent/guardian conferences are held a minimum of twice a year. Zoom meetings are set up for parents residing outside of Whale Pass. Meetings may be requested by parents/guardians at any time.

Annual Title I, Part A Meeting

Whale Pass 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, Part A program, the nature of the Title I, Part A program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

The annual Title 1 meeting for Whale Pass School will be held during the February 28, 2023 ASC meeting. A Zoom Meeting link will be provided for those stakeholders who are unable to attend in person.

Communications

Whale Pass School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- ☐ Timely information about Title I, Part A 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 parental involvement.
- ☐ A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
- ☐ If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- ☐ Information related to the school and parent and family member 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.

Parents and guardians of the Whale Pass School students will be informed of the Title 1 programs, availability of meetings, description of the curriculum, achievement levels on MAP, AK START, and iReady during the regularly scheduled ASC meetings and at the regular school morning meetings (since most parents work at the school). Additionally, the agenda and minutes of all ASC meetings, including the September annual Title 1 meeting are distributed to all stakeholders. All information relating to associated programs, meetings and other activities is posted at school and emailed directly to parents and guardians.

School-Parent Compact

Whale Pass 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.

There will be an annual review of the Student Handbook, Parent Handbook, ongoing training for ASC members, regular review of MAP, AK STAR, and iReady data, and collaboration with all stakeholders.

Reservation of Funds

The Southeast Island School District will 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 parental and family engagement is spent. *(Only applicable to districts with an allocation of \$500,000 or more.)*

- Funds reserved under this section by the district agency shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than 1 of the following:
 - (i) Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for local educational agencies and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members.
 - (ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
 - (iii) Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
 - (iv) Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
 - (v) Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the local educational agency determines are appropriate and consistent with such agency's parent and family engagement policy.

How the 1% of the Title 1, Part A funds will be spent for parental and family engagement will be discussed during the February 28, 2023 Title 1 Annual Meeting.

Coordination

Whale Pass School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Whale Pass School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies through inclusion of opportunities in the day-to-day activities at the school, announcing opportunities to parents and students via morning announcements, emails, and discussion at the monthly ASC meetings.

Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

Whale Pass School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents and family members 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 proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Providing parents and family members materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the following:
 - The challenging State academic standards.
 - The State and local academic assessments.
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - How to monitor a child's progress.
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Due to most parents working at the school there is dedicated time to review MAP, AK STAR and iReady results with parents and students as soon as the results are available. For those parents/guardians who do not work at the school, results are directly reported and discussed with them through either face-to-face and Zoom meetings. Testing results are also emailed to parents.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Whale Pass School will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

The school's morning meetings include the parents of most of the students in the school. The teachers make a point of interacting with the other two parents on a daily basis as they pick up or drop off their students. Most parents attend the monthly ASC meetings either in person or via the provided Zoom link. Since the parents of most of the students work at school those parents attend district-wide inservice meetings throughout the year.

Whale Pass School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request.

All parents and guardians are invited to attend school functions, participate in field trips, and attend workshops provided by the district.

Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional

NOTE TO THE SCHOOL: The school parent and family engagement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA, as amended:

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each Title I, Part A school—

- ☐ may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- ☐ may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- ☐ may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- ☐ may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- ☐ may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- ☐ may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- ☐ may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section; and
- ☐ may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

Parents of over 80% of the student population work at the school as either teachers or instructional aides. As such they are directly involved in the day-to-day instruction of their children. Additionally, they participate in district training and inservices throughout the year. The district pays for all transportation costs associated with these parents attending training, inservices, and conferences. The district either offers or provides training for ASC members, which include all parents. Teachers meet with parents/guardians who are unable to attend ASC meetings either via Zoom meeting, or when they drop off or pick up their children at school. Parents/guardians are notified of monthly ASC and district board meetings via morning meetings, ASC meetings, email and listings on the district website.

Adoption

This school parent and family member engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by parent participation in the daily education of their children and reviewed annually during a regular monthly ASC meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Whale Pass School on September 27, 2022, and will be in effect for the period of the 2022-2023 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **October 1, 2023**.

Printed Name of Principal: Shaine Nixon

Signature of Principal: _____ Date: _____

Commented [1]: @snixon@sisd.org Can you sign & Date this. So I can upload it to the website. Thank you
Assigned to Shaine Nixon