

Title I Family Engagement Policy and School-Home Compact

Parent-Teacher Conferences

- November 5
- March 27
- As needed

Progress Reports

- September 2019
- October 2019
- December 2019
- January 2020
- February 2020
- April 2020
- May 2020
- June 2020

School Events

- Back to School Night
- Family Reading Night
- Math/Science/STEM Carnival
- Multicultural Night

Purpose of the Policy and Compact

Manassas Park City Schools (MPCS) utilizes the Title I grant to improve student achievement and help all students meet the objectives of the MPCS Program of Studies and the Virginia Standards of Learning. A partnership with families is essential to meeting this goal.

Under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, schools that receive Title I funds are expected to collaborate with parents to develop

and maintain a family engagement policy that describes the school's approach to involve families in students' learning and a school-home compact that expresses the partnerships among staff, caregivers, and students to reach for high academic achievement for every student. This Family Engagement Policy and School-Home Compact outlines shared responsibilities to attain this goal.

(Continued on page 3)



Families as the first teachers.

Welcoming All Families

Efforts will be made to ensure that all parents/caregivers are welcomed and provided opportunities to actively engage within the school, including the following:

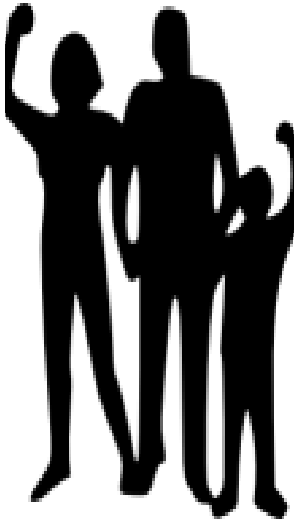
- ◇ Hold an annual meeting on October 10, 2019 inviting and encouraging all parents to attend, to share information about Title I services within the school and to explain grant requirements and the right of parents to be involved in the school.
- ◇ Hold regular parent meetings and curriculum nights, and offer ongoing access to parent resources through the school's parent resource center.
- ◇ Create a welcoming atmosphere at the school.
- ◇ Provide interpretation services for parent-teacher conferences, workshops, and meetings.

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Decision-Making and Advocacy

Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers are actively involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the school's Title I program, including the following:



- ◇ Include parent members with a voice in decision making on committees such as Title I Parent Advisory Committee and the PTA Board.
- ◇ Engage parent input when developing the School Improvement Plan (SIP), Title I Schoolwide Components, and Title I Family Engagement Policy and School-Home Compact.
- ◇ Seek feedback from parents on the school's programs and offer multiple methods for parents to submit comments about any schoolwide programs they may not find satisfactory.
- ◇ Invite parents to help in organizing and executing a variety of school events to build collective ownership.
- ◇ Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer within the school in various ways.

Effective Communication with Parents

Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive meaningful communication in a timely manner, including the following:

- ◇ Use multiple methods of communication to families such as weekly folders, MPES weekly newsletter, and PTO meetings.
- ◇ Translate or provide interpretation of all school communication to make it accessible to parents with a preferred correspondence language other than English and to parents with vision or hearing impairments.
- ◇ Support two-way communication between parents and staff through assistance of a parent liaison for language interpretation at conferences and phone calls home, translation of printed materials, and bridging access to country resources.
- ◇ Maintain MPES Website for parents to access resources to support student learning.
- ◇ Share school and student achievement data with families in ways that solicit their ideas about how to improve performance.
- ◇ Hold meetings and events throughout the school year to help families better understand the school's goals for students and find ways to improve student learning.
- ◇ Hold parent-teacher conferences for all students at least one time a year, and more often, as needed.
- ◇ Provide ongoing feedback on student progress through progress reports that show specific areas of proficiency, areas for continued growth, and information about performance on assignments.

Communication



Supporting School Success

Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive materials, training, and benefits from school partnerships with community-based organizations and businesses, including the following:

- ◇ Offer regular opportunities for parents to learn directly from school staff about the school's academic, behavioral, and social programming through curriculum nights.
- ◇ Encourage participation in family learning events where parents learn strategies to support their child's learning at home and have a chance to practice those strategies with their child.
- ◇ Provide access to parent resources in the school.
- ◇ Leverage partnerships with local businesses and organizations to enhance school programs and events.
- ◇ Support parents in accessing county and community.

Parental Notification of Assessment Opt Out Policies under Section 1112(e)(2) of *The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA)

On December 10, 2015, the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA) was signed into law. Section 1112(e)(2) of ESSA states that parents of students in Title I schools have a right to know about state or division policies regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by ESSA, including any policy, procedure, or parental right to opt students out of such assessments. If you would like to receive information about this topic, please contact [Jeffrey Jackson, Ed.D. either by phone at 703-335-8850, or in writing at Manassas Park City Schools, One Park Center Court, Suite A, Manassas Park, VA 20111.



Purpose of the Policy and Compact *(Continued from page 1)*

Manassas Park ES jointly developed this Family Engagement Policy and School-Home Compact with members of the school community and adopted it for the 2016–2017 school year. A number of the provisions specifically address state or federal expectations for the policy and compact.

This policy is distributed to all parents and provided in a language that parents can understand. Parents have opportunities to provide comments and feedback on the policy and compact through questions and answers at the PTO meeting. This policy is made available to the broader school community through the school website and PTO meetings.

School-Home Compact Provisions



We, as students, will take responsibility for our learning in the following ways:

- Get a good night's rest and eat breakfast in order to be attentive in school
- Have a positive attitude
- Be respectful of all people in the school environment
- Give our best effort at school and always do our work
- Be prepared with school materials and supplies
- Discuss school events with our parents or guardians and return important papers to school with their signatures
- Follow school rules and procedures responsibly

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Express high expectations and encourage my child's academic and behavioral efforts
- Ensure that my child attends school daily and arrives to school on time
- Ensure that my child comes to school ready to learn
- Talk with my child about what he/she is learning
- Provide a quiet homework area, establish a time for homework, and review homework with my child
- Establish an on-going relationship with my child's teacher
- Attend parent-teacher conferences and other school programs
- Be a role model to my child by reinforcing a positive attitude about learning and reading with my child

We, as staff members of MPES, will support student learning in the following ways:

- Hold high expectations for student learning in all curriculum areas
- Know our students
- Provide a high quality curriculum and instruction to all students
- Provide instruction in a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment that is conducive to learning
- Maintain on-going assessments on student progress
- Provide on-going communication with parents about student progress and school programs
- Provide programs, activities, and events that encourage learning and are of interest to students