



Portsmouth Public Schools
Douglass Park Elementary School
Title I Parent & Family Engagement Policy



Portsmouth Public Schools' Title I grant supports student academic achievement and helps all students in schools receiving Title I funding meet the objectives of the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs) and abide by the guidelines within the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* now *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*.

To ensure this goal is met, a partnership with families is essential. The Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy encourages the active engagement of all families of Douglass Park Elementary School as a recipient of Title I funding to ensure student success. Portsmouth Public Schools will leverage the Title I grant to promote family engagement through the following efforts.

Providing Information

- A. Title I Parent Advisory Council (PAC) shall be established, consisting of representatives of Douglass Park Elementary School. The PAC shall be comprised of parents/guardians of students served by the Title I grant. Representatives shall attend PAC meetings at DPES. The PAC will work together with the Title I staff to:
 - Develop and review the school's Parent & Family Engagement policy for Title I funding. Use results of this review to further develop Title I family engagement practices.
 - Conduct a survey of DPES as a recipient of Title I funding to determine the effectiveness of the Parent and Family engagement policy and capture the school's efforts to overcome barriers to family engagement.
 - Provide survey data to the parents and staff of Douglass Park Elementary School and submit program recommendations.
 - Stay abreast the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and provide updates to parents at the schools.

- B. Title I staff will support each school in working jointly with parents to develop a school-level Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Home Compact and to ensure that both documents meet the requirements of the ESEA. These documents will be reviewed and distributed to parents annually, revised every two years, and translated for accessibility for all parents

Coordination and Assistance

- A. Each school receiving Title I funds will actively involve parents and families in their school improvement planning process.

- B. Title I staff will:

- Support each school's collaboration with parents through meetings, surveys, and informal discussions as a way to identify appropriate programs to help parents understand the curriculum, instructional practices, and how to support their children at home to improve student achievement.
- Ensure the availability of parent and family programs such as:
 - *technology night*
 - *literacy night*
 - *math night*
 - *classroom visits*
 - *SOL night*
 - *parent workshops*
 - *parent university*
 - *community partnerships*
 - *volunteers*
 - *PTA Meetings*
 - *Parent/Student Handbook*
 - *21st Century Learning Center*
 - *W.A.T.C.H. DOGS program*
 - *Mother Bear program*

Building Capacity

- A. Title I funds will be used to support the position of a Parent and Family Engagement Liaison within the Title I team. To build schools' capacity for strong family engagement, the Home School Liaison will work with schools receiving Title I funds to:
- Develop and strengthen family engagement by sharing successful programs and strategies, providing materials for parent involvement programs.
 - Provide informational resources to schools, such as brochures in a variety of languages and sample PowerPoint presentations to explain Title I federal regulations to parents, including impacts of the ESEA waiver.
 - Semiannually write and distribute a parent newsletter to inform parents about the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings and to highlight family engagement events and effective instructional practices in schools receiving Title I funds.
 - Encourage parent and family engagement by providing financial and organizational support for educational family field trips.
 - Attend school meetings and assist with the development of *School-Home Compacts* and school level *Parent and Engagement Policies*.
- B. In order to support the development of Parent and Family Engagement activities that are directly related to improving student achievement at each school receiving Title I funds, the Parent Liaison will:
- Collaborate with school-based leaders regarding parent and family engagement events and programs implemented in support of student achievement goals.
 - Provide assistance in developing reflective processes to assess current practices and identify potential opportunities for strengthening family engagement.

Accessibility

- A. Schools will offer family engagement events at a variety of times convenient to parents. Refreshments and transportation are available as needed.
- B. Whenever possible, schools will use PPS Language Services to enlist the help of translators and interpreters to communicate with parents whose first language is not English.

Adoption

This Douglass Park Elementary Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by agenda from the families attending the family review training/meeting October 16, 2018.

This policy was adopted by the Douglass Park Elementary School on October 16, 2018 and will be in effect for the period of one year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 26, 2018.



School Principal

10/16/18

Date

