

August 23, 2021

Dear LEAP Parents,

Please join us on September 22, 2021 from 6-7:00 PM for our annual Title 1, Part A meeting. During our time together we will explain programs that will be funded by the ESEA-ESSER federal, review the LEAP family-parent engagement policy, and visit with the school-parent compact. Please review the parent-compact letter below, sign and return.

LEAP Academy Charter School along with the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A agree that the compact below outlines the process for parents, the entire school staff, and the students to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the school year 2021-2022.

School Responsibilities

LEAP Academy Charter School will:

Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the NJDOE student academic achievement standards as follows:

1. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.
2. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress, grades, and assessment scores.
3. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents during back to school nights and parent teacher conferences. Also through communication tools such as phone or emails.

Parent Responsibilities

LEAP Academy parents will support their children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Monitoring the amount of television their children watch.
- Volunteering in their child's classroom.
- Participating as appropriate in decisions relating to their child's education.
- Promoting positive use of their child's extracurricular time.

- Staying informed about their child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving to the extent possible on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's LEAP Academy Parent Committees (ESL/ Special Education)

Student Responsibilities

The students of LEAP Academy students will be responsible to improve their academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. To do so, the students will:

- Do homework everyday and ask for help when they need to.
- Read at least 30 minutes everyday outside of school time.
- Give to their parents or the adult who is responsible for their welfare all notices and information received by them from LEAP Academy everyday.
- Take advantage of all or any Title I programs that the school has to offer, such as: summer enrichment program, tutoring, academic resources and materials.

Title I Coordinator's Responsibilities

1. Involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of the school's parental involvement policy, in an organized, ongoing and timely way.
2. Involve parents in the joint development of any Title I targeted assistance program plan in an organized, ongoing and timely way.
- 3 . Hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs and to explain the Title I A Programs. The school will convene the meeting at a convenient time to parents, and will offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite to this meeting all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs (participating students) and will encourage them to attend.
4. Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon the request of parents with disabilities and to the extent practicable in a language that parents can understand.
5. Provide parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

6. At the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate as appropriate in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestion as soon as practicably possible.

7. Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the NJSLA in math and language arts.

Additional School Responsibilities

LEAP Academy's goal is to help build and develop a partnership with parents to help their children achieve the State's high academic standards. To do this LEAP Academy Charter School's Lead person will:

1. Recommend to the Title I Coordinator, the names of parents of participating children of Title I, Part A programs who are interested in serving on the Title I committee.
2. Work with the parents in addressing problems, if any, in implementing parental involvement activities in section 1118 of Title I, Part A.
3. Ensure that a copy of the SEA's written complaint procedures for resolving any issue of violation(s) of a Federal statute or regulation of Title I, Part A programs is provided to parents of students and to appropriate school officials or representatives.

School

Parent

Student

******* Policy 2415.04 Attached.**

District Policy

2415.04- TITLE I – DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT (M)

Section: Program
Date Created: February 2013
Date Edited: February 2013, September 2021

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GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The school will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in the school with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

Consistent with Section 1118, the school will work to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA.

The school will incorporate this School-Wide Parental Involvement Policy into its school's plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

If the school's plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the New Jersey Department of Education.

In the event the school is required to reserve and spend at least one percent of the school's Title I, Part A allocation, the school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how these funds will be spent and will ensure that not less than ninety-five percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the school.

The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects the Title I school will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving pupil academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-

1. That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

2. That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. 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
4. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA.

In the event the State of New Jersey or the New Jersey Department of Education has a Parental Information and Resource Center, the school will inform parents and parental organizations of its purpose and existence.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Below is a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components outlined below (Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA):

1. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school-wide parental involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - a. parents will have the opportunity to attend over 60+ parent meetings during the school year.
 - b. Parent representatives are present during Stakeholder meetings
2. The school will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - a. Parent representatives are present during Stakeholder meetings
3. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist the Title I, Part A school in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve pupil academic achievement and school performance:
 - a. Parents will have the opportunity to attend planning sessions for the 60+ parent meetings during the school year with the Director of parent engagement
 - b. Parents will have the opportunity to attend over 60+ parent meetings during the school year.
4. The school will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:
 - a. YES Tutoring program
 - b. APEX credit recovery program
5. The school will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parental Involvement Policy in improving the quality of the Title

I, Part A school. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement 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 Parental Involvement Policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

(List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents will play):

- a. Evaluations are conducted by the district central offices and the Rutgers CLC through Survey Monkey
- b. Surveys will be sent out to parents electronically two times per school year and results shared with stakeholders

The school will build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve pupil academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

1. The school will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A school, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described below:
 - New Jersey's academic content standards;
 - New Jersey's pupil academic achievement standards;
 - The New Jersey and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
 - The requirements of Part A;
 - How to monitor their child's progress; and
 - How to work with educators.

(List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-State and out-of-State, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

- a. parent workshops
- b. parent classes
- c. computers and other tech equipment to use during these workshops

2. The school will, with the assistance of the school, 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, by:
 - a. training by teachers in district on curricular programs
 - b. training by national facilitators on curricular programs
3. The school will, with the assistance of the school and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, the Chief Academic Officer/Lead Person and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school, by:
 - a. professional development will be provided to teachers, administrators and staff during mandatory monthly inservice days
 - b. teachers, administrators and staff will attend parent engagement events in the evenings on a rotating basis
4. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in fully participating in the education of their children, by:
 - a. providing frequent evening events on zoom and in person to train parents and provide information
 - b. communication meeting information with parents via school messenger
5. 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 an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

[Optional – to be included if the school provides any discretionary activities - select the applicable activities below

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY ACTIVITIES

The additional information outlined below lists and describes discretionary activities the school, in consultation with its parents, may undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, the Principal, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;

- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establishing a school-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request.

ADOPTION

This School-Wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly, and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This Policy will be distributed to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents understand, at the beginning of each school year or when the child is determined eligible and begins participating in Title I, Part A programs.

United States Department of Education Non-Regulatory Guidance – Appendix D - School-Wide Parental Involvement Policy

Adopted: 7 September 2021



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