

Combined District and School Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Harvard Public School intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, *Section 1116(a-f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.*

In General

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Harvard Public School plans many events and opportunities for parents and family members to be involved in the education of our students, including:

Back to School Picnic / School Tours / Annual Parent Meeting (Translated meetings also)
Parent Teacher Conferences
Full time Bilingual Staff Member (Family Liaison)
Materials are translated in Spanish
Parent / Community Surveys
Activity Parents' Night (admitted free / recognized)

- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation, and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.

Harvard Public School hosts at least one meeting (Annual Parent Meeting) where we review all Title 1 information (Engagement Policy, Compact, upcoming school year, etc). Ideas for improvement are shared at this meeting and incorporated if agreed upon by the group.

A Spring meeting also takes place to review the year and plan for the next year. Parents are also invited to attend this meeting.

- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

This takes place in the Spring with all Elementary staff members included in addition to parents. We review the year's events and efforts in the Title 1 area and make suggestions for improvement for the next year.

-Spring Title I review meeting

- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.

Parents are informed of their opportunities to participate in educational decisions via the student handbook and a personalized letter to all students who are identified for an Individual Reading Plan via the Nebraska Reads project. Follow up correspondence occurs several times a year after data is collected and progress is examined.

-Parent/Student Handbook
-Progress reports
-Parent Teacher conferences

- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

All of this information is included in our Parent / Student Handbook. Those who are identified via MTSS process for interventions are notified of the process and updated several times each year. A full time Bilingual Family Liaison translates letters / information sent home and also interprets for in person meetings between staff and non-English speaking parents.

-Parent/Student Handbook
-Test results and progress reports sent home
-Parent Teacher Conferences

- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

Harvard Public School utilizes Professional Development time and the support of the Educational Service Unit to continually work on developing communication and involvement with parents to be partners in the educational process of their child(ren).

- Early out Fridays for PD
- ESU9 as a support system
- Full Time Bilingual Family Liaison staff member

- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Harvard Public School coordinates all programs to join with parents to education their child(ren).

- Transition programs from level to level (PreK, K-5, 6-8, 9-12)
- Cooperation between HPS and Migrant Programs for Summer School support
- Cooperative agreement between HPS and Head Start
- Work with local day cares to provide Special Education support services