

Mckinley Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2022-2023

“Where Relationships Come First”

PURPOSE:

McKinley K-8 acknowledges that families and schools have vital roles in ensuring that a child’s development and education is a shared partnership that requires a collaborative effort. Each partner has the responsibility to be knowledgeable and to foster a climate of respect and cooperation for the benefit of all students.

DEFINITIONS:

Parent/Family – The term “parent/guardian” refers to the legal guardian or other person standing in “loco parentis” such as a grandparent or step-parent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child’s welfare. The terms parent/guardian and family may be used interchangeably throughout these documents.

School – McKinley K-8 is one of eight schools in the School District of the City of York, comprised of students living within the boundaries of the City of York.

FAMILY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Although parents/guardians/families may be diverse in culture, language, resources and needs, all share the school’s commitment to the educational success of their children. McKinley K-8 recognizes its responsibility to help eliminate barriers that impede family engagement and to create an environment supportive of comprehensive family engagement programs that have been developed in collaboration with parents/guardians. Therefore, this policy shall establish programs and practices that reflect the specific resources and needs of McKinley K-8 students and their families.

TITLE 1 REQUIREMENTS

McKinley K-8 shall incorporate Title 1, Part A parent and family engagement requirements into this policy, programs and practices and ensure that all parent/guardians are informed about the opportunity and expectation to participate in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. The district shall ensure that parents/guardians and families are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making, recommending allocation of resources and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child, and that of all the students in the school.

EXPECTATIONS

Parents/guardians and family members shall actively participate in development of school board policies, strategic planning processes, school improvement plans, programs and services and the budgeting process.

Recommendations from Family/School Partnerships (Parent and Family Advisory Councils, and PFTO) shall focus on improving student achievement for the entire school body and may target specific student populations.

Family/School Partnerships (Parent and Family Advisory Councils, Parent and Family Academies) shall emphasize a strengths-based perspective that builds resiliency factors and serves to leverage the resources and assets of family members, schools and communities to address needs and improve learning and achievement opportunities for all children.

- ★ Parents will be invited to become involved in the Parent Advisory Council (PFAC) for the school and be given information about the dates and times for the PFAC/PFTO meetings.
- ★ Parents/ Guardians will receive notification of the annual Title 1 meeting to discuss the Title 1 program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved.
- ★ Parent/ Family meetings, including parent conferences, will be held at different times during the day to accommodate as many parents' schedules as possible

Title 1 Parent engagement funds will be distributed to each school each year, to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent engagement activities as determined by the Parent and Family Advisory Council in the building. Those activities must be student achievement oriented, school- related or training sessions.

- ★ The School District of the City of York is a district-wide Title 1 program. McKinley K-8 Parent and Family Advisory Council will be given representation on the School District of the City of York's district-wide Parent Advisory Council, which will be involved in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program plan for Title 1.
- ★ McKinley K-8 Parent and Family Advisory Council representatives will be included in the joint development of the School Improvement plans under Section 1116, if identified for school improvement.
- ★ McKinley K-8 will provide parents with a description and explanation of curriculum in use at the school, along with the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. This will be accomplished by:

- Parent Open House
- Parent Teacher Conferences (held 3 times per year)
- Parent engagement Activities
- Parent Meetings with Administrators and Teachers (appointment preferred)

- ❖ McKinley K-8 will provide assistance to parents and families in understanding the State's academic content standards and student achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.
- ❖ McKinley K-8 will offer parents and families an opportunity to participate in regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and McKinley K-8 will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- ❖ A joint school-parent/family compact will be jointly developed between parents and McKinley K-8 that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
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- ❖ McKinley K-8 will provide materials and training to parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training or use of technology, as appropriate

ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS

McKinley K-8 is committed to implementing the following elements of effective programs:

- ❖ Creating a welcoming, safe, accessible environment for students;
- ❖ Creating a welcoming, safe environment for all families
- ❖ Expanding parent, community, and school communication;
- ❖ Encouraging supportive home environments;
- ❖ Promoting and encouraging volunteer support from family and community;
- ❖ Facilitating learning opportunities outside of schools;
- ❖ Building capacity and promoting shared decision-making;
- ❖ Coordinating resources and services;
- ❖ Intensifying community engagement;
- ❖ Supporting youth development

EVALUATION

Parents/guardians/family members will participate in evaluating the implementation and effect of this policy on student success. The evaluation will be used to improve and/or create practices to enhance parent and family engagement. This policy will be reviewed and/or revised as needed by the Family/School Partnership (Parent and Family Advisory Council and School Administration) or other designated advisory group that involves families and school staff.

