

**KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OFFICE**  
**Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
***Community School***

The Community School program, with parents and family members, has jointly developed, mutually agreed upon, and distributed to parents and family members of students participating in Title I, Part A programs, the following requirements as outlined in ESSA sections 1116 (b) and (c). Community School recognizes the importance of parent and family involvement and works closely with families to support them and their child through the educational process. Community School's policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements.

**School Parent Involvement**

To involve parents in the Title I, Part A program at Community School, the following practices have been established:

Convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in and the requirements of the Title I, Part A program and the right of parents to be involved

- Community School holds Back to School Night events where parents are informed of the school's participation in the Title I, Part A program, program requirements, and their right to be involved.
- Parents are required to attend orientation upon their child's enrollment in Community School at which time the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and other policies are reviewed.

Offers a flexible number of meetings for parents

- Meetings are scheduled in the mornings, afternoons, or evenings to better accommodate parents.

Involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs and policies under Title I, Part A

- Through School Site Council (SSC) and the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), Community School involves parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact.
- Through School Site Council (SSC), parents are involved in the development of the annual School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA).

Provides parents with timely information about Title I, Part A programs

- Parents are provided information related to the Title I, Part A program during orientation, Back to School Night events, SSC meetings, ELAC/DELAC meetings, parent conferences, reclassification meetings, IEP meetings, Student Parent Handbook, letters mailed home, and through the Alternative Education website.

Provides parents with a description and explanation of curriculum, assessments, and achievement levels students are expected to meet

- Parents are provided with an explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards during orientation, Back to School Night events, SSC meetings,

ELAC/DELAC meetings, parent conferences, reclassification meetings, IEP meetings, letters mailed home, and through the Alternative Education website.

- Parents are provided written notification concerning the state mandated testing and the results thereof.
- Parents have access to regular reports on their student's academic progress.

Provides parents, if requested, with opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child, and respond to such suggestions as soon as practicably possible

- Parents are able to schedule meetings with school staff in order to make suggestions and participate in decisions related to their child's education.

### **School-Parent Compact**

Community School distributes to parents of Title I, Part A students a School-Parent Compact. This compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the state's high standards. The compact addresses the following required items:

- The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the challenging state academic standards.
- The importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis.

The School-Parent Compact was jointly developed through SSC and ELAC meetings. The compact is reviewed annually by the SSC and ELAC and is included in the Student Parent Handbook.

### **Building Capacity for Involvement**

Community School engages parents of students participating in Title I, Part A programs in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help meet the goals, the school has established the following practices:

Provides parents with assistance in understanding the state's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve the academic achievement of their child

- Parents are provided information on the academic content standards, assessment results, and monitoring information at Back to School Night events, parent conferences, SSC meetings, ELAC/DELAC meetings, IEP meetings, and letters mailed home.

Provides materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement

- Parents are provided opportunities and materials to improve their child's achievement including, but not limited to, parent teacher conferences, Back to School Night events, Town Hall meetings, Parent Project, and referrals to outside agencies, such as mental health agencies.

Educates staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value of parent contributions and how to work with parents as equal partners

- Staff is provided guidance in working with students and families to increase parent-school partnerships through on-going effective communication.
- Parents are encouraged to attend meetings and provide input related to their child's education.

Coordinates and integrates parent engagement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs and conducts other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their child

- Community School coordinates and integrates the Title I, Part A parent engagement program with other programs including, but not limited to, JobsPlus!, Kern Youth @ Work, School Community Partnerships, Kern County Probation Department, mental health agencies, and referring school districts.
- Community School annually offers Parent Project classes.

Distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities in a format and language that parents can understand.

- Community School distributes all parent communication in English and Spanish. In addition, school staff members are made available to interpret for Spanish-speaking parents who attend meetings and other school activities.

Provides reasonable support for parent engagement activities under Title I, Part A as parents may request

- Support for parents is provided by the staff of Community School so the individual needs of each student is met to the best of the school's ability.
- Parents are provided opportunities to complete online surveys at Back to School Night events and/or Town Hall meetings. Feedback gathered from the surveys is used to help plan program improvements.

### **Accessibility for Parents and Family Members**

Community School provides opportunities for the participation of all parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migrant students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents can understand.

- Community School distributes all parent communication in English and Spanish. School staff members are made available to interpret for Spanish-speaking parents.
- Meetings are held in locations that are accessible to all, including those with disabilities.