Family Engagement Policy

2024-2025

***In addition to the LEA’s Parent and Family Engagement Policy (P1230), each Title I.A school must jointly develop with parents of participating children a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The school policy shall be distributed to parents and made available to the local community. The school policy must be reviewed annually and updated as needed to meet the changing needs of parents, families and the school. Parents shall be notified of the policies in an understandable and uniform format. To the extent practicable, the policy shall be provided in a language the parents can understand. If the school has a Parent and Family Engagement Policy, that policy may be amended to meet the federal policy requirements.***

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| How does your school seek and obtain the agreement of parents to the parent and family engagement policy? |
| We provide our parents with this information at the beginning of the school year during registration. Parents are also invited and expected to come to our Title 1 meetings that are held once each semester to obtain the agreement, and at our Spring Evaluation Review and Revision where they can voice concerns and present any changes or suggestions.  A parent/guardian signature is required on the signature page which agrees to terms and conditions outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook. We include the policy in the front of the Student/Family Handbook. |
| What are the strengths of family and community engagement? |
| Family and Community engagement is important to us at our school. Our Family Community Specialist conducts monthly PTO meetings with a learning component. Our parents are provided quarterly newsletters, updates, and event information on ClassDojo, and information on our school website. Each month we look forward to an increase in parental involvement with our various events. We also have dedicated community partners that contribute to our school community. Such partners include Trinity Church, Little Bit Foundation, Price-Waterhouse Coopers, Zulu St. Louis, Girl Scouts, and BWorks. Some of our families also utilize Gene Slay’s Boys & Girls Club for after-school care and join sports team leagues at the YMCA. In addition, we offer After-School Academy program for families. |
| What are the weaknesses of family and community engagement? |
| Humboldt Academy is a magnet school with students from all areas of St. Louis city. For many parents, transportation to and from Humboldt Academy is challenging for events that occur during after-school hours. In addition, many of our parents need before-school care and we have not been able to provide this due to a need for staffing. We need more families to attend our events so that they feel like an important part of our school community. |
| What are the needs identified pertaining to family and community engagement? |
| Humboldt Academy has an open door policy. We encourage our parents to voice their needs and communicate any concerns or ideas to improve their experience at our school. Many parents are utilizing our After School Academy program, Monday-Friday from 4:30-6:30. Our families have expressed the need for a Before School Care program and transportation for the After School program. Parents have also expressed needs to have dates for events in advance to assist them in planning to attend. |
| How are parents involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the Schoolwide plan? |
| We have our annual Information meeting in the fall and our Evaluation Review and Revision meeting every spring semester. At these meetings, parents are invited to voice their suggestions and concerns with the schoolwide plan. In addition, we ask parents to be involved in school planning all year round through PTO meetings and surveys after events |
| How are parents involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy? |
| Parents are involved in the revision of the family engagement policy at the annual Evaluation Review and Revision meeting. The Family Community Specialist seeks and receives input from parents and works with the principal to revise documents. |
| How is timely information about the Title I.A program provided to parents and families? |
| Humboldt Academy provides a quarterly newsletter, and some teachers provide classroom updates to their students’ families via email. We also have School Reach phone calls for reminders, along with flyers for each event. Also, in the beginning of the school year, we will provide a calendar to our parents with dates of meetings, school events, and holidays. |
| What are the methods and plans to provide an explanation of curriculum, assessments and MAP achievement levels to parents and families? |
| In the fall at our Open House, we will introduce curriculum to parents. Prior to MAP Testing in the spring, we host a MAP Preview Night in which our teachers demonstrate to parents how testing is done, what it entails, share student and parent expectations, test taking tips, and general tips for parental support. |

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School Leader Date