



Discovery Regional High School (Central Office)
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Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2024-2025

WHAT IS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- A. That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.
- B. That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education.
- C. 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.
- D. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ABOUT THE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Discovery Regional High School (DRHS) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district’s expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships. This plan will describe DRHS’s commitment to engaging families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I School/Sites to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children’s education. DRHS will work with its Title I sites to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement plans meet the requirements of federal law and include, as a component, the school-parent compact.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

All parents are invited to a Comprehensive Needs Assessment Meeting held by each site during March-April to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement plan and the Comprehensive LEA Implementation Plan (CLIP). Each site informs parents of these meetings using the following methods: posts on school websites and the site’s social media accounts and notices are sent home with students. During each school’s meeting, parents review and discuss the CLIP and the School Improvement

Plan. Additionally, each Title I site will utilize Title I parent surveys to receive additional feedback regarding the district and school parent and family engagement plans.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan is incorporated into the CLIP, which is submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time on the school or district website or by submitting written comments to the Site Director of their child's school.

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan is posted on the Discovery Regional High School website, distributed at the beginning of the school year, and made available at each Title I site in the district in a format and language all parents can understand.

STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOL

The Federal Programs Director (FPD) will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I sites to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I sites will receive notifications and resources from the FPD to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the FPD will provide training throughout the year to review family engagement plans and activities with the school staff.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

DRHS will distribute funds to all of the Title I Sites to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each site in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I site will host a Comprehensive Needs Assessment meeting in March-April for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming school year. Feedback forms from these meetings will be reviewed by the Federal Program Director (FPD) to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget. If you have suggestions, please contact the FPD at the Central Office.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEANINGFUL PARENT CONSULTATION

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are essential components of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students who are eligible to receive Title I services are invited to participate in meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

School Comprehensive Needs Assessment Meetings ~March-April 2025

During the months of March-April, each Title I school will host a meeting for parents and family members to participate in discussions to review the school wide plan, the district and school parent and family engagement plans, as well as provide input on the family engagement budget, programs, and topics for school staff training. Each Title I school will inform parents of these meetings using the following methods: posts on school websites and the site's social media accounts and notices sent home with students, which inform parents about the date and time of the meeting.

Electronic Input-October, 2024, January, and March-April, 2025

All parents and community members will be invited to provide electronic input on the revised district Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan for the FY 25 school year. Notices regarding this input opportunity will be sent to all parents and advertised on the Discovery Regional High School website. Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the Title I Parent Surveys. The surveys will contain questions related to the family engagement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit www.discoveryregional.org to provide input via email or available survey.

BUILDING CAPACITY

The DRHS will build partnerships between its Title I Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop the capacity for this support, DRHS will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives.

Of Parents-DRHS will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The district will work with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information related to the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments-including alternate assessments, will be provided. The district will also offer training nights to provide parents with assistance in understanding the use of its Parent Portal and other digital resources. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the school's website, and social media page, and shared through parent notices.

In addition, the district and school websites will contain resources and materials such as parent newsletters, study guides, and practice assessments for at-home learning.

DRHS will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, sites may host College and Career Fairs so that parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff- DRHS will conduct a minimum of three staff capacity trainings during the school year for all faculty and staff members to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools.

To ensure that information related to district, school, and parent programs and activities is available to all parents, each Title I site is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events, where applicable. The information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize district and site's social media to post information for parents.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVALUATION

Each year, DRHS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I sites through parent surveys and the School Comprehensive Needs Assessment Meetings.

During the months of October, January, and March-April, DRHS will send home a link to a survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district website for parents to complete. In addition to these surveys, each Title I site will use its School Comprehensive Needs Assessment meeting to facilitate group discussions around the needs identified by parents of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

DRHS will use the findings from the School Comprehensive Needs Assessment meetings and the results of the surveys to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, remove possible barriers to parent participation, and revise its parent and family engagement plans.

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the FPD will communicate and collaborate to ensure 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 in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

Title I Parent Surveys

October 2024
January 2025
March/April 2025

School Comprehensive Needs Assessment Meetings

March-April 2025 (Specific Dates, Times, and Locations to be announced)

Electronic Input Opportunity

March-May, 2025

For Schools

Creating Welcoming Environments and Improving Two-Way Communications with Families

September 2024-Electronic Communications

Building Staff Capacity Trainings

September 2024
December 2024
February 2025