Carbondale Area Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement School Policy

2020-2021

Carbondale Area Elementary School jointly developed this Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy in consultation with parents, as outlined by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This policy will be distributed to parents at the beginning of each school year through the student handbook and will also be available to the community via the District's webpage. The Title I School Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents, family members and the school.

In accordance with this policy, Carbondale Area Elementary School agrees to the following:

1. Parents and family members will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116 (b) (1)) during the end of year meeting. At this time both the school level Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School/Parent/Student Compact will be reviewed and agreed upon by parents.
2. Convene an annual meeting at the beginning of each school year to inform parents and family members of the school's participation in the program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved.
3. Offer a flexible number of meetings per school year.
4. Involve parents and family members, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program.
5. Provide parents and family members with timely information about Title I programs.
6. Provide parents and family members a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency level students are expected to meet.
7. As requested by parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
8. Parents will be asked to participate in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan.
9. Engage parents and family members in the planning and review of the School-Parent-Student Compact. The Compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement and the means by which the school and the parents will build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the State's high standards.
The Compact:

- describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children to meet the challenging state academic standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
- Addresses the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
  - Parent-teacher conferences, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement;
  - Frequent reports to parents on their child's progress
  - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities; and
  - Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

10. Provide assistance to parents and family members in understanding the challenging Pennsylvania Academic Standards, state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.

11. Provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster family engagement.

12. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents; and how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build times between parents and the school.

13. Coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs including public preschool programs; conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children.

14. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

15. Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children in a format that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand.

This Carbondale Area Elementary School's Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children attending the Carbondale Area Elementary School, as evidenced by this document and the sign-in sheet.

This policy was adopted by the **Carbondale Area School District** on**,_____** and will be in effect for the period of the 2020-2021. The District will distribute this policy to all parents of children attending our school on or before September 30, 2021 by placing it in the Carbondale Area Elementary School handbook and on the school district website.

_____
         Signature of Authorized Official

_____
                    Date