

# Title I Parent & Family Engagement Policy & Compact

## Purpose of this Policy and Compact

***Efforts will be made to clearly articulate the school's intentions to engage with and involve parents/caregivers in the educational process.***

Clearview Elementary is a Title I school within Fairfax County Public Schools' (FCPS) and utilizes the Title I grant to improve student achievement and help all students meet the objectives of the FCPS Program of Studies and the Virginia Standards of Learning. A partnership with families is essential to meeting this goal.

Under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, schools that receive Title I funds are expected to collaborate with families to develop and maintain a parent and family engagement policy that describes the school's approach to involve families in students' learning and includes a compact expressing the partnerships among staff, caregivers, and students to reach high academic goals for every student.

Clearview Elementary jointly developed this policy and compact with members of the school community and adopted it for the 2019-2020 school year. Many of the provisions specifically address state or federal expectations for the policy and compact.

This policy and compact is distributed to all caregivers in a language that families can understand. Caregivers have opportunities to provide comments and feedback on the policy and compact through monthly PTA meetings. Comments are submitted with the school's policy and compact to FCPS central offices and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). This policy and compact are made available to the broader school community through the school website.

## Important Dates

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

- November 1, 2021 and November 2, 2021
- Additional dates by appointment

### Progress Report Distribution

- Date 1<sup>st</sup> quarter
- Date 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- Date 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- Date 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

### School Events

- Back to School Open House, TBD
- International Night, TBD
- Science Night TBD
- Math Night- TBD
- AAP Orientation TBD
- Kindergarten Orientation TBD



## Building Capacity for Involvement

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers are actively involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the school's Title I program, including the following:***

- ◇ Provide family members a voice in decision-making on committees such as the Positive Behavior Approach Committee, Family Engagement Committee, and the Parent Teacher Association.
- ◇ Engage caregiver input when developing the School Innovation and Improvement Plan (SIIP), Title I Schoolwide Plan, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Compact and plans for use of Title I family engagement funding.
- ◇ Seek feedback from families on programs within the Title I Schoolwide Plan, offer multiple methods for caregivers to submit comments about programs they may not find satisfactory, and submit any such comments with the Title I Schoolwide Plan to FCPS central offices.
- ◇ Invite family members to help in organizing and executing a variety of school events to build collective ownership, such as International Night and the Clearview 5K and Fun Run.
- ◇ Provide opportunities for caregivers to volunteer within the school in various ways, such as PTA-sponsored social events, assisting teachers in classrooms, and assisting in the library.
- ◇ Encourage families to take part in annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the division-level Title I parent and family engagement policy in order to identify:
  - ◇ barriers to greater family participation,
  - ◇ ways to help family members be better able to assist in student learning, and
  - ◇ strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

## Effective Communication with Parents

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive meaningful communication in a timely manner, including the following:***

- ◇ Use multiple methods of communication to families such as a monthly grade level and school newsletters, weekly emails, bi-monthly PTA newsletter, Positive Postcards, Blackboard, the website, PTA and school Facebook pages.
- ◇ Encourage all caregivers to attend an annual meeting on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 PM, to share information about Title I services, explain Title I grant requirements, and inform families of their right to be involved in the school.
- ◇ Share school and student performance data with families in ways that seek their ideas about how to improve performance toward Virginia's challenging academic standards through School Improvement and Innovation Plan conversations.
- ◇ Provide opportunities throughout the year for families to better understand the school's goals for students and find ways to improve student learning by hosting interactive family events.
- ◇ Maintain resources for caregivers to review student assignments and ongoing communication about student work, such as weekly Tuesday Envelopes and parent-teacher conferences upon request.
- ◇ Provide ongoing feedback on student progress through quarterly progress reports that show specific areas of proficiency and areas for continued growth.
- ◇ Hold parent-teacher conferences for all students at least annually in the fall and more often, as needed.

## Shared Responsibilities for High Academic Achievement

***Efforts will be made to ensure parents/caregivers receive materials, training, and benefits from school partnerships with social and academic services, community-based organizations, and businesses, including the following:***

- ◇ Hold workshops connecting caregivers to tools and resources, such as parenting classes offered in convenient local venues in the evenings and featured speakers at monthly PTA meetings.
- ◇ Offer regular opportunities for families to learn directly from school staff about the school's academic, behavioral, and social programming through grade level content-specific family events.
- ◇ Encourage participation in family learning events where caregivers learn strategies to support their child's learning at home and have a chance to practice those strategies with their child, such as Primary and Upper Grades Math Night.
- ◇ Provide ongoing access to resources in the school, via a part-time parent liaison.
- ◇ Provide mentors for students through a Staff-Student Mentoring Program.
- ◇ Provide opportunities to donate and access supplies donated by others, such as the Snack Pack Weekend Food Program, backpacks, winter outdoor wear, and emergency food supplies.
- ◇ Leverage partnerships with local businesses and organizations to enhance school programs and events, Open Door Presbyterian Church, Salesforce, VOICE and Trinity Presbyterian Church.
- ◇ Support parents in accessing county and community resources, such as healthcare, counseling, classes, tutoring through the school social worker, school psychologist, school counselors, and parent liaison.
- ◇ Offer outreach and training programs for targeted families, such as Immigrant Family Reunification and Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters.

## Welcoming All Families

***Efforts will be made to ensure that all parents/caregivers are welcomed and provided opportunities to actively engage within the school, including the following:***

- ◇ Create a welcoming atmosphere at the school with interpreters, bilingual staff, parent liaison services, and ongoing access to parent resources. Such resources include parenting classes, student and family health care options.
- ◇ Provide interpretation services for parent-teacher conferences, workshops, and meetings.
- ◇ Translate or provide interpretation of all school documents and communication to make them accessible in the caregiver's preferred correspondence language.
- ◇ Support two-way communication between families and staff through assistance of a parent liaison for conversations about student achievement and social emotional needs.
- ◇ Expand access for family participation in informational meetings and learning sessions through publicizing upcoming events within the Herndon area.

# Compact Provisions

*School staff, parents/caregivers, and students must work together to ensure student success.*

## **The staff will:**

***Provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction that enables students to meet challenging academic standard through the following actions:***

- ◇ Teach all students according to the state's challenging standards, using approved curriculum resources.
- ◇ Provide ongoing professional development and support to all teachers to ensure effective instructional practices are used in all classrooms.
- ◇ Create engaging learning experiences that meet the needs of all students.

***Provide a supportive and effective learning environment for students through the following actions:***

- ◇ Provide clear expectations for student behavior and academic learning.
- ◇ Offer a variety of resources to help students with their learning.
- ◇ Communicate regularly with parents regarding each child's progress.
- ◇ Model and teach respect for self, others, and surroundings through a Positive Behavior Approach.

***Provide assistance to caregivers in understanding the school's program through the following actions:***

- ◇ Hold an annual meeting to present information on the school's Title I programs, state and division curriculum and assessments, and the school's state and federal accountability status.
- ◇ Provide multiple opportunities for caregivers to ask questions and give input into the Title I programs.
- ◇ Maintain an updated school webpage to communicate with parents on a regular basis about available resources and school events.

***Build caregivers' involvement in the school's Title I program through the following actions:***

- ◇ Include caregivers as members of the School Improvement Innovation Planning (SIIP) Committee and as collaborators in developing the Title I Schoolwide Plan and plans for the use of Title I family engagement funds.
- ◇ Encourage families to be valuable partners in the education of their children.

## **The parents/caregivers will:**

***Demonstrate understanding that participation in my child's education will help his or her achievement through the following actions:***

- ◇ Participate in decisions related to school programs and my child's education and share my questions or comments about the programs in my child's school.
- ◇ Volunteer in my child's classroom or in school activities, as my schedule allows.
- ◇ Encourage and support my child's learning at home and at school.
- ◇ Encourage my child to use respectful language and behavior with peers and adults.
- ◇ Limit and monitor TV and internet time, including social media and games.
- ◇ Communicate and provide feedback to staff regarding my child.

## **The student will:**

***Share the responsibility to improve my academic learning to achieve the state's challenging standards through the following actions:***

- ◇ Get enough sleep every night.
- ◇ Come to school on time unless I am sick.
- ◇ Try my hardest and work with my classmates to complete learning tasks.
- ◇ Give my parents all notes and papers from my teacher.
- ◇ Respect self, others, and surroundings.

