

Parent and Family Engagement under Every Student Succeeds Act

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Workshop Goals

- Discuss LEA requirements of Section 1116 of ESSA relating to Parent and Family Engagement.
- Discuss necessary requirements for parent involvement to achieve monitoring compliance.
- Provide updated checklist for LEA/School Parent and Family Engagement Policies

Parent and Family Engagement (PFE)

- Section 1116 of ESSA
- An LEA may receive Title I funds, if the LEA conducts outreach to all parents and family members and implements programs, activities, and procedures to involve parents and family members
 - must be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and family members
- If the plan is not satisfactory to parents, parent comments must be submitted with the plan??

Areas of LEA Responsibility for Parent and Family Engagement

- Development of the Title I Plan (Consolidated Application)
- LEA PFE Policy
- Annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the LEA PFE Policy and PFE Program
- Reservation of Funds
- Parent Right to Know Requirements
- Involvement and outreach to parents of EL students

Parent Involvement in the Title I Plan

- Parents and Family members must be given the opportunity to have input on the Title I Plan (Consolidated Application).
- This can be done through
 - Meetings, workshops, etc.
 - Must have agendas and sign in sheets

LEA PFE Policy

- Will describe
 - How parents and family members are involved in the development of the LEA plan (Consolidated Application)
 - Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity to all the participating schools within the LEA
 - Coordinate and integrate PFE strategies with other relevant Federal, State, and local programs

LEA PFE Policy, cont.

- Will describe
 - Annual evaluation of the PFE policy, including,
 - Barriers of parents and family members to participate
 - Needs of parents and family members to assist with their child’s learning
 - Strategies to support successful school and family interactions
 - Design evidence based strategies for parent and family engagement
 - Done through community involvement
 - Best practices
 - Involve parents and family members in activities of the schools
 - May include parent advisory board

LEA PFE Policy, cont.

- Must be revised annually with parent and family input
 - Agendas and sign in sheets
- Must be distributed to parents and family members
 - Distribution can include; mail, website, handbook, etc.
- Required for all LEAs including Charters

PFE Set-Aside

- LEAs receiving \$500,000 and more in Title I must reserve 1% for parent and family engagement.
 - 90% must be distributed to schools with priority given to high need schools
 - 10% can remain at district
 - Must describe in consolidated application how funds will be spent
 - Set asides in excess of 1% may be used for district-wide parent and family engagement activities.
 - Parents must be involved in how the funds are spent
- LEAs receiving less than \$500,000 in Title I still must meet all requirements for parent involvement, but are not required to set aside funds to do so.

Use of Funds

- 1% reservation must be used to carry out activities in the PFE policy and must include at least one of the following
 - Providing PD to school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies
 - May be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parent and family members
 - Programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school

Use of Funds, cont.

- 1% reservation use of funds
 - Disseminating information on best practices on parent and family engagement
 - Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to collaborate, with community based or other organizations or employers with best practices on improving and increasing parent and family engagement
 - Other activities included in the PFE policy

LEA Parent Right to Know (RtK)

- Section 1112 - LEAs must notify parents attending any Title I building that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the teacher, including; whether the teacher is
 - Appropriately state certified
 - Teaching under an emergency permit
 - Teaching the field certified
 - Qualifications of any paraprofessionals providing instructional services
- Must occur at the beginning of the school year

LEA Parent RtK

- LEA must notify parents that they may request information regarding the State or LEAs policy, procedure, or parental right to opt out of State assessments
- Make available information on State or LEA assessments, including;
 - Subject matter assessed,
 - Purpose of the assessment, and
 - Requirement of the assessment.
 - Can be done through website posting or other method of distribution

Parents of English Learners (ELs) RtK

- Parents will be notified of the reason (s) for identification of their child as an English learner and in need of placement in a language instruction program.
- Parents will be notified of the child's level of English proficiency, how such level was assessed, and the status of the child's academic achievement.
- Parents will be notified of the methods of instruction used in the program in which their child is, or will be, participating and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how such programs differ in content, instructional goals, and the use of English and a native language in instruction.
- Parents will be notified how the program in which their child is, or will be, participating will meet the educational strengths and needs of their child and will specifically help their child learn English and meet age-appropriate academic achievement standards.

Parents of ELs RtK, cont.

- Parents will be notified of the specific exit requirements of the program.
- Parents will be notified if their child has a disability, how the program will meet the objectives of the individualized education program of the child.
- Parents will be provided with information on their right to have their child immediately removed from the program upon request; options to decline enrollment or to choose another program of instruction; and select another program if there are more than one programs offered.

Parents of ELs

- LEAs must have effective outreach to parents of EL students to inform them,
 - How they can be involved
 - Active participant in assisting their child to
 - Attain English Proficiency
 - Achieve at high levels
 - Meet challenging State standards
 - Include parents of ELs in regular meetings
- Provide documentation in a language they can understand.

School-level Responsibilities for Parent and Family Engagement

- School Level PFE Policy
- Parent RtK Requirements
- School-Parent Compacts (shared responsibilities for high student performance)
- Annual meeting to inform parents of the school's Title I program
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the school PFE activities
- Build capacity for strong PFE
- If Schoolwide, must have a parent as part of the Schoolwide team.

School Level PFE Policy

- Will describe how the Title I School will
 - Set up an annual meeting at a convenient time for parents
 - Offer a flexible number of meetings
 - Involve parents in planning review, and improvement on the school PFE policy and development of the schoolwide plan (if applicable)

School Level PFE Policy, cont.

- School PFE policy will
 - Provide parents
 - Timely information about the PFE program
 - Description and explanation of the curriculum, academic assessments, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards
 - Opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in the Title I program
 - Development of the School-Parent Compact

School Level PFE Policy, cont.

- School PFE policy will
 - Build capacity for parent and family engagement
 - Provide opportunities for parent and family participation, including EL parents, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children
 - If the LEA receives Title IV funding, inform parents of the program

School Level PFE Policy, cont.

- School Level PI policy must align with the district policy but be unique to the school
- Must be updated annually with parent and family input
 - Agendas and sign in sheets
- Policy must be disseminated to parents and made available to the community
 - Through website, letter, handbook
- Required for all LEAs including Charters

School Level Right to Know Requirements (Section 1112)

- Title I schools shall provide to each parent:
 - Information on the level of achievement and academic growth on State academic assessments
 - A letter that the student has been taught for four consecutive weeks or more by a teacher that is not appropriately state certified.
 - Those teachers working in a Title I program
 - SWP – all teachers
 - TA – Title I teachers

School-Parent Compacts

- Shared responsibility for high student academic achievement
 - School and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve these standards
 - Must
 - Describe the school's responsibility for high quality curriculum and instruction
 - Describe the parents responsibility to support their child's learning, volunteer in the classroom, and participate in the decisions relating to their child's education and extracurricular time

School-Parent Compacts, cont.

- School-parent compact will
 - Address the importance of communication through;
 - Parent-teacher conferences,
 - Frequent reports to parents, and
 - Reasonable access to staff.
 - Ensure two-way meaningful communication between family members and school staff
 - Ensure communication is in a language parents can understand

School-Parent Compacts, cont.

- Must be disseminated to parents and family members.
 - Does not need to be signed and returned
 - Mail, website, handbook, etc.
- Must be reviewed and updated annually with parent and family input.
 - Agendas and sign in sheets

Building Capacity – Title I Schools

- Title I School must provide assistance to parents in understanding the challenging State academic standards, State and local assessments, and how to monitor their child’s progress
- Must provide training materials to help improve student achievement, such as literacy training and using technology and the education of copyright piracy
- Must provide reasonable support for parents and family members upon request
- Must include parents

Building Capacity – Title I Schools, cont.

- Must educate teachers, specialized instructional personnel and other staff with the assistance of parents on how to communicate and work with parents.
- Must coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement activities with other Federal, State, and local program, including public pre-school programs
- Must ensure that information is sent home in a language and format parents can understand

Building Capacity – Title I Schools, cont.

- May provide literacy training
- May pay reasonable and necessary expenses for parents to attend meetings, including transportation and child care
- May train parents to train other parents

Building Capacity – Title I Schools, cont.

- May arrange school meetings at a variety of times and places
- May adopt and implement best practices
- May include community based organizations and businesses

Title I Annual Meeting

- Schools invite parents to an informational meeting to inform them about the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs and explain the requirements and their right to be involved.
- Can include all items under building capacity
- Agendas and sign in sheets
- For compliance only one is necessary

Allowances for Food at PFE Meetings

- Must have “a very high burden of proof” to include food.
- Never purchase for “networking” activities
- Don't accept food/beverage costs embedded into a venue's contract.
- Food is not an indirect cost.
- Never pay for alcohol.
- Meeting costs must be necessary and reasonable.
- As long as there is a connection to a programmatic purpose and the cost is reasonable, an LEA may continue to provide food at Title I parent meetings.

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Annual Evaluation Of the PFE Activities

- Conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the school PFE activities.
 - Usually done through surveys
 - Family and Community Engagement Survey – SPAC website

Monitoring and PFE

- LEA PFE policy
 - Updated policy, agendas, sign in sheets, and evidence of distribution
- School PFE policy
 - Updated policy, agendas, sign in sheets, and evidence of distribution
- School Parent compact
 - Updated compact, agendas, sign in sheets, and evidence of distribution

Monitoring and PFE

- Involve parents in professional development
 - Agendas and sign in sheets from PD team
 - Surveys
- Annual meeting
 - For compliance, only one is necessary
 - Agendas and sign in sheets
- Providing information on curriculum and assessments
 - Can be done during parent teacher conferences
 - Agendas and sign in sheets

Monitoring and PFE

- Using parents to train staff on how to work with parents
 - SPAC skits – just need agendas and sign in sheets from staff meeting
- Coordinating with other Federal, State, and local programs including preschool
 - Transition Plan
 - Agendas and sign in sheets from meetings.

Monitoring and PFE

- Right to Know teacher certification letter to parents
 - Evidence of distribution date
 - Translated copy for LEP parents
- Right-to-Know letter informing parents if their child has been taught for four consecutive weeks or more by a teacher that is not Appropriately State Certified
 - Must have a copy on record
 - If used, keep dated copy
 - Draft needs to be school specific and dated for the current year
 - Translate for non-English speaking parents
 - Can also count as sending information home in a language parents can understand

Monitoring and PFE

- LEAs must have effective outreach to parents of EL students, migratory students and parents and family members with disabilities
 - Agendas and sign in sheets to show they have been included
- Annual evaluation of the Title I parent and family engagement program
 - Done through surveys, work groups
 - Document results

State Level PFE Activities

- Title I State Parent Advisory Council
 - Title I State Parent Conference
 - Seven Springs Resort
 - July 10th – July 12th
 - SPAC will cover registration and lodging for one Title I parent per district
 - Childcare available for an additional cost
 - Technical Assistance Visits for School Districts
- Parent Resource Center (IU 4)
- Title I Parent Involvement Toolkit
- For more information on SPAC:
 - www.SPAC.k12.pa.us

PFE Resources

- United States Department of Education Website (law and guidance):
 - www.ed.gov
- State Parent Advisory Council Website
 - www.spac.k12.pa.us
- Engaging School Communities Website
 - <http://www.pa-engagingschoolcommunities.info/>
- Division of Federal Programs Website
 - www.pde.pa.gov
- Title I Parent Involvement Toolkit:
 - <http://www.spac.k12.pa.us/title1administrators.htm>

QUESTIONS??


