



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

Benjamin Franklin High School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Year 2023 - 2024

Revision Date:

04/19/2023

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Benjamin Franklin High School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Benjamin Franklin High School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

-Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.

-Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

-If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

-Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

(A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning

(B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school

(C) 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT

REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Benjamin Franklin High School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Parents are invited to review and provide input on the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact annually during the Spring Title I Meeting. This document was reviewed by parents and updated on March 30, 2023. Parents are also invited to review and provide feedback on the school plan and budget prior to their finalization for the subsequent school year during the Annual Winter Title I Meeting. Meeting times will be varied (morning and afternoon sessions) and families have the option to attend meetings virtually (via Zoom or Google Hangout/Meet).

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Benjamin Franklin High School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

This information is reviewed during the Annual Title I Meeting, which will be part of Back to School Night: September 2023. At this meeting a powerpoint presentation will be given by administration or their designee with information about parent rights under Title I as well as how to work with educators, track student progress, and information about Title I part A and state and local assessments and content standards. During classroom visits teachers will introduce parents to the Google classroom platform and the parent portal in order to support parents with accessing their students work to monitor progress

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

Benjamin Franklin High School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children with (1) Timely information about the Title I programs, (2) Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, (3) transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement and may use Title I funds and (4) Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Communication from the school will be sent out in an easy to understand format and in a language of the families choosing. Methods include the following:

Automated phone calls

Personal phone calls by school staff members

Social Media: Twitter and Instagram

School webpage

BFHS Family Handbook

Invitations/Flyers/Parent Letters

Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact, which are distributed in the fall

Translations are available, as needed, through the Office of Translation

Meetings and conferences for parents will be held at various times to accommodate parent schedules and increase parent participation

Parents will conference on the child(ren)'s academic progress three times a year. We will work to coordinate conferences at different times of day in order to best accommodate the schedules of parents/families. These will be held as follows: November 21 – 23, 2023; February 1 - 3, 2024; March 29 – 31, 2024.

Interim reports will be shared as follows: October 12 – 14, 2023; December 21 – 22, 2023; February 27 – March 1, 2024; May 8 – 10, 2024.

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Benjamin Franklin High School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Parents are invited, each spring, to review and update the School-Parent Compact in conjunction with the updating of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The Compact was reviewed and parent input incorporated on March 30, 2023.

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Benjamin Franklin High School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

Reviewing the budget and school plan at the annual Title One Winter Meeting. Parents are invited, at this meeting, to give input into how to spend the Title I parent funds (1%). This year, that meeting took place on January 20, 2024. Surveys are distributed to parents and include the opportunity to provide feedback on how Parent Involvement funds are spent.

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Benjamin Franklin High School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Coordinating college and career readiness events with local partners, students, and parents.

Participating in transition activities for BFHS students.

Utilizing the Family Engagement Center for technology needs, parent resources, and books to help parents support students with academic, attendance, and behavioral goals.

Planning training sessions for parents on how to access the online parent portal.

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Benjamin Franklin High School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
 - Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
 - Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
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State standards and assessments, the requirements of Title I, monitoring student progress, and working with educators, as well as an explanation about the curriculum (using Curriculum Engine) used by Benjamin Franklin, are reviewed during the Annual Title I meeting held during Back to School Night in September.

Information about progress monitoring is shared with parents on a quarterly basis in conjunction with quarterly reports. Staff train parents in accessing student data through the parent portal at various times, including during report card conferences.

Staff will also be available to offer training/support to parents on an as-needed basis as well as during SAC events.

When appropriate, information will be provided in languages other than English.

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Benjamin Franklin High School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

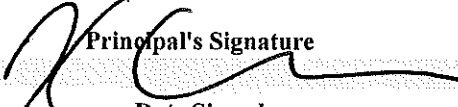
Participating in community building activities involving students, parents and staff.

Participating in training that focuses on effectively communicating with parents and guardians to maximize opportunities for student achievement. This will be informed by feedback provided by parents via survey. This training will occur as part of a district-wide professional development day in the fall or winter.

Participating in training to utilize the Parent Portal and Student Information System to provide ongoing communication to families.

Benjamin Franklin High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

Establishing partnerships with community-based programs to assist with supporting students and parents with receiving services needed to meet educational goals.


Principal's Signature
Date Signed
5/17/23