1. Purpose

The Board recognizes that parent and family engagement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents and family members and community.

2. Authority

In compliance with federal law, the district and parents and family members of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written parent and family engagement policy. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will:

1. Involve parents and family members in the joint development of the district's overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement.

2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

3. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with appropriate programs, as provided by law.

4. Involve parents and family members in an annual review of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I, including identifying:

   a. barriers to greater participation by parents and family members of students in Title I programs (with particular attention to those parents and family members who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
   b. the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
   c. strategies to support successful school and family interactions.
5. Use findings of the annual review to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and, if necessary, to revise the parent family and engagement policy.

6. Involve parents and family members in the activities of schools served under Title I.

**20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318**

The Board shall adopt and distribute the parent and family engagement policy, which shall be incorporated into the district's Title I plan and shall be evaluated annually, with parent input.

### 3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I parental involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

1. Explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
2. Set of objectives to be addressed.
3. Description of the services to be provided.

**20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that information and reports provided to parents and family members are in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

### 4. Guidelines

An annual meeting of parents and family members of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. Parents and family members shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Parents and family members shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.

In addition to the required annual meeting, additional parent and family member meetings shall be held at various times of the day and evening. At these meetings, parents and family members shall be provided:

1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
2. Description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in
decisions relating to the education of their children.

4. Opportunities to submit comments about the program to the district level.

If sufficient, Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent and family member attendance at meetings through payment of transportation, child care and translator costs.

Opportunities shall be provided for parents and family members to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child's progress.

Parents and family members will be given guidance as to how they can assist at home in the education of their child.

**School-Parent Compact**

Pol. 102

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents/guardians of students served in the program a School-Parent Compact outlining the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff and students share responsibility for improved student achievement in meeting academic standards. The compact shall:

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in the Title I program to meet the district's academic standards.

2. Indicate the ways in which parents and family members will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time.

3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents and family members, and reasonable access to staff.

**Title I Parent and Family Engagement Set-Aside Funds**

At least one percent (1%) of the district's Title I, Part A funds will be designated to carry out parent and family engagement activities, including those described below. Ninety percent (90%) of these "set-aside" funds must be distributed to schools, with priority given to "high-need" schools. Parents and family members of low-income students must be included in decisions regarding how these engagement funds are spent, which is required by federal law.
Parent and family engagement funds must be used for at least one of the below activities:

1. Supporting schools in training school staff regarding engagement strategies;

2. Supporting programs that reach families at home, in the community, and at school;

3. Disseminating information on best practices focused on engagement, especially for increasing engagement of economically disadvantaged families;

4. Contracting and/or collaborating with community-based organizations or businesses that have a track record of improving family engagement; or

5. Engaging in any other activities that the district believes are appropriate in increasing engagement.

References:

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318

Board Policy – 102