

Blissfield Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In accordance with the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)*, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)*

Parents, staff, and the building administrator have developed this Parent and Family Engagement Plan in accordance with the ESSA Section 1116 activities which are accomplished at Blissfield Elementary School in the ways listed in each Section.

ESSA Section	Ways in Which <u>Blissfield Elementary School</u> Staff Accomplish These Activities
1116(b)(1) This Plan has been jointly developed and distributed to parents and family members in a language that can be understood. The Plan is updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.	Describe the development of the Plan, including the stakeholders involved, the steps taken to ensure the Plan is understood, and the process for updating the Plan. <u>The Family Engagement Plan was developed over time by the Title 1 staff in conjunction with other stakeholders such as teachers, administrators, and parents. We hold an annual meeting to discuss the plan and allow stakeholders to provide input on the plan. The plan is updated as needed based on feedback from stakeholders.</u>
1116(c)(1) Convene an Annual Title I Parent Meeting at a time convenient to parents to inform parents of the Title I requirements and their right to be involved.	An annual meeting is held which includes information for parents on: <u>the Title 1 program, how student eligibility is established through our Benchmark Assessment process, what services eligible students are entitled to,</u> How are parents encouraged to attend? <u>Parents are invited and encouraged to attend</u>
1116(c)(2) Offer flexible number of meetings at times convenient to parents and provide transportation, childcare, or home visits as it relates to parental involvement.	Meetings are offered at times convenient for parents and if needed, transportation, childcare, and home visits can be arranged: <u>Currently we have an in-person meeting and we have offered childcare for parents who need to bring their children. We also offer snacks for attendees and their children. In the past, we offered the meeting virtually. We do not currently incorporate home visits as part of our Title 1 plan. Our goal is to increase the number of meetings to allow more opportunities for parents to learn about the Title 1 program as well as how they can help their child excel through support at home.</u>
1116(c)(3) Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, reviewing, and improvement of Title I programs, including the development, review, and improvement of the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the Schoolwide Program Plan.	Parents are involved in the development of the School Improvement Plan and Title I Program development in the following ways: <u>The Parent and Family Engagement Plan is presented at our annual Title 1 Stakeholders meeting. Parents are provided the opportunity and encouraged to provide feedback on the plan and make suggestions for improvement of the plan. There is also a survey sent out to all Title 1 parents annually that allows them the opportunity to review the plan and provide input as well.</u>

ESSA Section	Ways in Which School Staff Accomplish These Activities
1116(c)(4)(A) Provide parents of Title I children timely information about the Title I Program.	Parents are provided information regarding the school Programs in the following ways: <u>The presentation slides from the annual meeting are made available to parents of all Title 1 students. Parents whose children are eligible to receive Title 1 services are provided with an informational letter and a permission form, which is returned to the school that expresses their understanding of the program and their agreement for their child to receive services. Parents with questions about any aspect of the program are encouraged to reach out to the Title 1 Director at any time. The Title 1 Director reaches out to parents via email or phone when the permission form is not returned in order to answer any questions and encourage parents to allow their child to receive Title 1 services. Parents also receive quarterly progress reports specifically from the Title 1 program in regards to their progress on their individual academic goals. The Title 1 Director also shares end-of-year data about the overall academic growth of students who participate in the Title 1 program at a Blissfield Community Schools Board meeting each June.</u>
1116(c)(4)(B) Provide parents of Title I children a description and explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure progress, and the achievement levels students are expected to meet.	Parents are provided information about the school's curriculum, assessments, and proficiency level expectations in the following ways: <u>Our school website includes a Curriculum Framework and we are working to make it a one-stop shop of district parents to see detailed information about the curriculum being used at the school. There is also an overview of the math and reading curricula at the annual Title 1 Parent meeting. The curricular materials are presented to parents and they can ask questions about them at the meeting. School administrators, teachers, and the Title 1 Director are always available to answer questions about curriculum and students' academic goals.</u>
1116(c)(4)(C) Provide parents of participating Title I students opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions, to participate in decision-making as it relates to their child's education, and to respond to any suggestions as soon as possible.	Parents have opportunities to share suggestions, participate in decision making, and respond to any suggestions in the following ways: <u>We hold an annual meeting for Title 1 Parents and are working to increase the number of meetings throughout the school year. We do have opportunities for parents to attend parent teacher conferences and review and sign the School-Parent Compact, which we keep on file at the school.</u>
1116(c)(5) Ensure that if the Schoolwide Program Plan is not satisfactory to parents of participating students, submit any parent comments on the Plan when the school makes the Plan available to the Local Educational Agency (LEA).	If parents are not satisfied with the School Improvement Plan or Programs, they have opportunities to make comments by: <u>attending the annual Title 1 Parent meeting held every fall. There is also a survey sent to all parents that presents the Targeted Assistance Plan and allows parents to suggest changes.</u>
The School-Parent Compact Must:	

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1116(d) Jointly, with parents, develop a School-Parent Compact that outlines how the entire school staff, parents, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) Clearly explain district and school goals for students to meet the challenging State academic standards.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) & 1116(d)(1) Describe ways that teachers are responsible for supporting students' learning and providing high quality curriculum and instruction.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) & 1116(d)(1) Describe specific ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) Describe specific ways students will be responsible for their learning.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) & 1116(d)(2)(C) Describe school activities to build partnerships with parents, including chances for parents to volunteer, take part in, and observe classroom activities, and communicate with teachers.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d) & 1116(f) Describe how parents and family members are involved in developing and revising the compact.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(d)(1) & 1116(d)(2)(A-C) Ensure regular two-way meaningful communication between family members and school staff throughout the school year, so that parents are kept up to date on their students' progress and get regular tips on home learning.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(f) Communicate information using family friendly language and format.	☒ Yes ☐ No
1116(e)(1) Shall provide assistance to parents of students served by the school in understanding the State's academic content standards, the State and Local assessments, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.	How does the staff provide assistance to parents to help them understand the content standards, assessments, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children? What training is provided to families? <u>We have an annual Title 1 Parent meeting each fall during which we present the curriculum and discuss how parents can support their child's learning. We also hold parent teacher conferences twice a year and have very high attendance rate for these conferences. The Title 1 team also sends quarterly progress reports home. The Title 1 Director is available by email or phone to answer questions that parents have as well.</u>
1116(e)(2) Shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.	Staff will provide parents with appropriate materials and offer training in our school to enable them to support their child's academic progress. These include: <u>At the annual Title 1 Parent Meeting, parents are given strategies to help support their child at home. Also, any student who is placed on and Individual Reading Intervention Plan (IRIP) is given strategies through the Read-at-Home Plan. These strategies can also be found on our district webpage. Foster parents are included in this as well.</u>

ESSA Section	Ways in Which School Staff Accomplish These Activities
1116(e)(3) Shall educate staff in the value and utility of parents' contributions, in how to reach out to, and communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, to coordinate and implement parental involvement programs, and to build relationships between the parents and the school.	On-going professional development for staff on effective ways to increase parental involvement occurs annually. They include: <u>We have very involved families, and it is due in part to the efforts made by the school staff to include parents as partners in their child's education. Teachers send out weekly communication about the curriculum and instruction occurring in the classroom. Teachers provide contact information and encourage parents to reach out with questions or concerns. At staff meetings, we often discuss parental involvement strategies and opportunities for parents to get involved.</u>
1116(e)(4) Shall coordinate and integrate parental involvement 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.	Coordination with other Programs for parental involvement includes: <u>Our building administrators work with local preschools as well as the staff of the GSRP program that is housed in our building to ensure positive transitions from preschool to our elementary school programs. We would like to be involved in more support programs and resource centers to help engage our preschool parents more fully. This is an area for improvement.</u>
1116(e)(5) Shall ensure information is shared with parents in a language and format they can understand.	Information is shared with parents in a language and format they can understand. Examples include: <u>When we have had students or families who speak a language other than English, we have had documents translated into their first language. We have also provided sign language interpreters for parents when necessary.</u>
Gray Area - Recommended Best Practice, but Not Required	
1116(e)(6) May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.	_____
1116(e)(7) May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the LEA has exhausted all other reasonably-available sources of funding for such training.	_____
1116(e)(8) May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related	_____

ESSA Section	Ways in Which School Staff Accomplish These Activities
meetings and training sessions.	
1116(e)(9) May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.	_____
1116(e)(10) May arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.	_____
1116(e)(11) May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.	_____
1116(e)(12) May establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Programs supported under this Section.	_____
1116(e)(13) May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities.	_____
1116(e)(14) Shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.	Parents are provided with other reasonable support such as: <u>We are very open to requests for parents and provide whatever support is reasonable. We especially try to provide transportation to programs like summer school to make it more convenient for the majority of eligible students to attend.</u> How does the school collect this information? <u>We keep records of emails and phone calls of such requests.</u>
1116(f) Shall provide full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.	Staff provide opportunities for full parent participation: <u>We have translators who attend conferences and help with the translation of documents for families who speak a language other than English at home. We also have an ADA compliant building that has no barriers to students or family members with disabilities.</u>