

## Section 8 - Community Relations

### **8:15 Parent and Family Engagement**

Dolton West School District 148 agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

#### Purpose

- Dolton West School District 148 will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, Dolton West School District 148 will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent component consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Dolton West School District 148 will incorporate this District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, Dolton West School District 148 and its schools will provide opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, Dolton West School District 148 will submit any parent comments with the plan when the district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- Dolton West School District 148 will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools 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 that the opportunity is provided for the following:

1. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  2. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  3. that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making to assist in the education of their child;
  4. the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.
- Dolton West School District 148 and its schools will inform parents of the purpose and existence of the parental resource and information available via the website.

#### Implementation

1. Dolton West School District 148 will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Plan under section 1112 of the ESEA through providing opportunities for input at parent meetings and through other written communication.
2. Dolton West School District 148 will involve parents in the process of school review and improvement by publishing state assessment results in district publications and conducting an annual LEA Review in conjunction with the parents at the school level at all schools.
3. Dolton West School District 148 will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist all schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by offering parents the following opportunities: e.g. meetings, and workshops. Teachers are encouraged to provide parents with individual achievement information and specific ways to improve student achievement. Some examples include: parent conferences, emails, and written communication.
4. Dolton West School District 148 will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with Preschool parents and family engagement through the Preschool Transition Team.
5. Dolton West School District 148 will conduct an annual Parent Survey to evaluate the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its schools. Dolton West School District 148 will make available surveys to parents to complete on paper or online and return to the school. The results of the survey will be summarized for each school and presented to parents. At this time, parents will also have the opportunity to provide input concerning the need for revisions to the policy if necessary.
6. Dolton West School District 148 will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved parents, and the

community to improved student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. Dolton West School District 148 will provide assistance to parents of children served by the Dolton West School District 148 or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described below.
- The State's academic content standards, student academic achievement standards, and the Common Core State Standards will be described to parents annually.
  - The requirements of Title I Part A will be described to parents and the community at the Title I District-wide meeting.
  - Parents will be provided with information concerning monitoring their child's progress through parent conferences, parent meetings and progress reports.
  - Parents will be provided with information concerning how to work with educators through parent conference preparation forms and with informal conversation with parents.
- B. Dolton West School District 148 will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement by:
- Materials (e.g. books, packets of practice materials, bookmarks with reading/writing strategies, lists of appropriate websites, etc.) will be sent home by teachers.
  - Parents are able to borrow materials from the Title I Parent Resource Library.
  - Teachers train parents on literacy strategies.
  - Dolton West School District 148 will educate its teachers, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents by including this topic in discussion with appropriate staff in professional development and staff meetings.
  - Dolton West School District 148 will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with Preschool, and other programs by involvement in the Transition Team.
  - Dolton West School District 148 will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents in an understanding and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
    - Phone calls
    - District website
    - District email

The District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Superintendent of Schools. This policy will be in effect until required changes in Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are in effect.

ADOPTED: December 18, 2018

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**Dolton West School District 148**