



Reviewed July 20, 2020

TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Pinnacle Classical Academy (“PCA”) recognizes the value of family engagement in a child’s academic success and believes that the education of children is an ongoing cooperative partnership between the home and the school. Parents and other family members are their children’s first teachers; therefore, the continued involvement of parents and family members in the educational process is most important in fostering and improving educational achievement. School system officials shall strive to support parents and provide parents and family members with meaningful opportunities to become involved in the programs offered.

PCA encourages parents and family members to participate in the design and implementation of the programs and activities in order to increase the effectiveness of the school system’s Title I program in helping students meet state and local achievement standards.

Parents will be notified of the policy in an understandable and clear format and, if necessary, provided in a language the parents can understand. The Parent & Family Engagement Policy will be distributed to all parents of participating Title I students in September/October of each school year. This policy will also be placed on the school's website, made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

A. PURPOSE AND OPERATION OF TITLE I PROGRAM

The Title I program is a federally supported program that offers assistance to educationally and economically disadvantaged children to help ensure they receive an equitable, high-quality, well-rounded education and meet the school system’s challenging academic standards. The Title I program provides instructional activities and supportive services to eligible students over and above those provided by the regular school program.

PCA will operate as a school-wide program or targeted assistance programs based upon federal eligibility criteria. This school-wide program will provide comprehensive support to offer improved opportunities for all students in the school to meet the school’s academic standards. scores, teacher judgment, and results of screening and home-school surveys.



B. EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES

1. As a school receiving federal ESSA Title I-Part A grant funds, we will involve parents and family members in meaningful parent and family engagement as follows:
 - a. Parents/stakeholders are engaged in the continuous review and development of the written Parent & Family Engagement Policy.
 - b. Distribute to parents the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, which will be posted on the website.
 - c. Continued communication with all stakeholders - via multiple means: website, email/text/phone calls, social media, etc.
 - d. Regular stakeholder engagement meetings
 - e. Volunteer information is provided regularly and is easily accessible to all stakeholders. Involvement of PCA Volunteer Coordinator will support these efforts.

2. We will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of our school in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance; to provide assistance to parents/families in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, how to monitor a child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of the children attending our school. This may also include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and other organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education
 - a. We will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children will be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I-Part A, the requirements of the program, and the right of the parents to be involved in



their child's education.

- b. We will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
3. We will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities under Title I-Part A, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs, including public/private school programs, and conduct such other activities as parent resource centers.
 - a. We will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as in the morning or in the evening, or virtually.
 - b. We may use Title I-Part A grant funds to provide transportation, childcare, or home visits, as the services relate to parent involvement.
 - c. We shall ensure that information related to school and parent/family programs, meetings and other activities is provided to parents/families in a format, and to the extent possible, in a language the families can understand.
 - d. We may conduct in-home conferences between teachers and other educators with parents/families who are unable to attend such conferences at school in order to maximize family engagement and participation.
 - e. We will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, 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 the parents and the school.
 - f. To the extent practicable, we will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

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4. We will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of our school served under Title I-Part A, including identifying:
 - a. Barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by Section 1116 (with particular attention to parents 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;
 - c. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions; and
 - d. We will involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way:
 - i. In the planning, review, and improvement of programs under the Title I-Part A Program;
 - ii. In the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent and family engagement policy, except that if we have in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, we may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of Title I-Part A participating child.
5. We will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policy. We will provide parents of participating children:
 - a. Timely information about Title I-Part A programs.
 - b. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of challenging State academic standards.

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- c. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
6. We will involve parents in the activities of the school served under Title I-Part A. This will include:
- a. The PCA MTSS team will attend regular stakeholder engagement meetings throughout the year and will enlist stakeholder input on school goals and initiatives.
 - b. Developing 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.
 - c. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement in educational programs and activities, including public preschool programs, which encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.