

James Rhoads Elementary
Parent and Family Engagement Policy
School Year 2019-2020
Revision Date: 04/11/2019

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **James Rhoads Elementary** 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).

The **James Rhoads Elementary** 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

James Rhoads Elementary 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.

- **A parent Title I meeting will be held in the Spring and Winter annually to review and make suggestions for our budget, Parent Involvement policy, School/Parent Compact and school wide plan. Parents will be invited by flyer and web-based communications.**
- **School Progress and our Title I Programs will be reviewed monthly at SAC meetings.**
- **Parents jointly developed this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at a meeting held on April 11th, 2019.**

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

James Rhoads Elementary 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.

- **A parent Title I meeting will be held in September at Back to School night to provide assistance to parents of participating children 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**
 - **Curriculum overview**
- **School Progress and our Title I programs will be reviewed monthly at SAC meetings.**
- **Parents will be afforded and opportunity to take a Parent Survey annually.**

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

James Rhoads Elementary 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.

- **Send home a monthly school calendar detailing events and pertinent information for parents. Current information will also be posted on our school website**
- **Our School Improvement Support Liaison (SISL) will conduct home visits when necessary to share Title I information and other important school information with parents when necessary**
- **All communication from school will be sent home in parent-friendly language and additional languages that reflect our school community members and the languages spoken in the home. Translation services are available through the school district Multilingual office.**

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

James Rhoads Elementary 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.

- **A parent Title I meeting will be held in the Spring and Winter annually to review and make suggestions for our budget, Parent Involvement policy, School/Parent Compact and school wide plan. Parents will be invited by flyer and web-based communications.**
- **Parents jointly developed this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at a meeting held on April 11th, 2019.**

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

James Rhoads Elementary 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:

- **During the Winter Title I meeting, parents and guardians will be made aware of the budget allocated for parent and family engagement. Parents and guardians**

will also have the opportunity to make suggestions on how to spend the money to increase parent and family engagement.

- **Parents provided feedback to the budget, including the parent engagement set-aside funds, at a Winter Title I meeting held on Feb. 4, 2019.**

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

James Rhoads Elementary 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:

- **Kindergarten teachers will meet with public preschool teachers to coordinate a transition plan to successfully transition preschool students into kindergarten through the Building Bridges program.**
- **The school will provide a Parent Resource Center outside of the main office where parents can access various resources to support their children academically, socially, emotionally, etc.**
- **The school will provide parents with specific information on outside agencies through the SAP process, as needed.**

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

James Rhoads Elementary 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:

1. 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
2. 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
3. Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - a) The challenging State's academic standards
 - b) The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - c) The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - d) How to monitor their child's progress
 - e) How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

- **James Rhoads will hold a Literacy and Math workshop for parents annually. Parents will have the opportunity to attend on-site parent workshops monthly at James Rhoads. In addition, parents will be able to take part in web-based parent workshops at James Rhoads through our parent technology center.**
- **At Back To School Night and ongoing parent workshops, parents will learn how they can access SchoolNet and Parent Portal in order to track their child's progress, grades, benchmark scores, standardized test scores, online textbooks and learning supports, attendance, and other resources and information they need for their child to achieve success.**
- **A Fall Title I Parent meeting will be held in September to provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:**
 - **The challenging State's curriculum and 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**
 - **Curriculum**

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

James Rhoads 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:

- **At the start of the 2019-2020 school year, teachers and staff will be receive professional development on how to engage and effectively communicate and build relationships with parents. Teachers will also be developed throughout the year on strategies for sustain relationships with families in our community.**
- **Conduct a school-wide parent survey and share the results with the entire school staff so that parent concerns can be addressed and parent preferences can be considered**

James Rhoads will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- **Face to face meetings with school staff (in or outside of school), web-based supports and telecommunications. Parents may also request copies of documents through written communication.**

- Inclusion in Kindergarten Open House, Back to School Night, and other school activities and events.
- James Rhoads School will provide parents with a resources center located in our school IMC where parents will have access to books, journals, computers and web-based resources.
- Monthly school based parent workshops.
- A parent volunteer program.
- Ongoing communication through the following methods: monthly school calendar, school website, web-based applications, class newsletters.
- Workshops to enhance parents use of technology and resources that support student learning and family engagement.



9-19-2019

Principal Signature

Date