

Title I School-Level Parent and family Engagement Policy

Clyde W. Needham Elementary School

October 27, 2021

2.0 With approval from the local governing board, Clyde W. Needham Elementary School has jointly developed with, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents, and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. (EC Section 11503; 20 United States Code [U.S.C.] Section [§] 6318[b][1-4]) *[Describe how the school Jointly develops with, and distributes to, parents and family members of Title I students a written parent and family engagement policy.]*

The Needham Learning Community strives to provide an atmosphere of mutual respect between parents and the school. Of all the adults who teach and care for children, parents are the most important. The opportunities they provide, as well as the interactions they have with children, have the greatest potential to influence children's learning and development. For this reason, parents are important partners in the educational process. To ensure a strong parent involvement component, the school staff will take the initiative to encourage, guide and genuinely welcome parents into the partnership.

2.1 Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

The school-level parent and family engagement policy shall describe the means for how Clyde W. Needham Elementary School shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[b][1])

- a) The school convenes an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited to attend and encouraged to attend, to inform parents and family members of their school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements, and the right of the parents to be involved. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][1])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The school convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program. This meeting occurs on Back to School Night. Parents are invited to the cafeteria for a Title I Meeting prior to visiting classrooms. This meeting will be held online if required to do so.

- b) The school offers a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][2])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning, afternoon, or evening. Child care will be provided as needed.

- c) The school involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][3])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The Needham Elementary School Parental Involvement Policy and the School-Parent Compact are reviewed annually by the School Site Council, English Language Advisory Committee and the School Instructional Leadership Team. The Title I program is reviewed as part of annual review of the SPSA. This parent input is vital in revising programs.

d) The school provides parents of participating children with the following:

i. Timely information about the Title I program. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][A])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

A parent meeting to inform parents about Title I programs and involvement activities at Needham Elementary is held yearly. Connect Ed messages and website updates are also sent to parents to highlight important events.

ii. 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 the challenging state academic standards. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][B])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

This occurs at Back to School Night, parent teacher conferences, ELAC meetings, and School Site Council Meetings.

iii. 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 respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][C])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham Elementary has an open door policy for parents to meet with teachers, staff, and administration. Requests for information will be fulfilled as quickly as possible and will be shared at yearly meetings, parent teacher conferences, ELAC meetings and SSC meetings.

e) If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school submits any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency (LEA). (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][5])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham Elementary School will submit all written documentation of parent comments that reflect that the program is not satisfactory to the district office (local educational agency).

2.2 Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under Title I, Part A shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e])

a) The school provides assistance to parents of children served by the school or LEA, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][1])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children. Information is presented at parent - teacher conferences, in newsletters, and on the website.

- b) The school provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][2])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The school provides Title I parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement through parenting classes, such as Parenting Partners and Parent Cafe, informational meetings such as parent teacher conferences, and evening events such as Back to School Night.

- c) The school educates 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. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][3])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

At staff meetings and grade-level teacher meetings, strategies to enhance parent involvement are discussed and integrated into our educational program.

- d) The school, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][4])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham school currently provides the following resources and partners with the following outside agencies to provide tools for parents:

- Parenting Partners
- Parent Cafe
- Jump Into English
- Newsletters with Parent Corner

- e) The school ensures that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][5])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand. Additionally all information is available on the Needham School website where translation of the web page is available into most languages.

- f) The school provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][14])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Parent involvement strategies within the SPSA are integrated based on parent input.

2.3 Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of Title I, Part A, Clyde W. Needham Elementary School, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 6311), as amended by ESSA, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[f])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.

2.4 School-Parent Compact

As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school served under this part shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part 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. The school-parent compact shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d])

- a) Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under Title I, Part A to meet the challenging state academic standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][1])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham Elementary School distributes to parents and family members of Title I students a student - parent - school compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents and family members, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve California's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- b) Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, the following: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][2])

1. Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][2][A])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Parent teacher conferences are held at the end of Quarter 1.

2. Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][2][B])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Needham Elementary school provides quarterly report cards as well as progress reports for students when needed.

3. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][2][C])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Class Dojo is used school wide as a communication tool. Needham has an open door policy and parents may request an appointment to observe in a classroom.

4. Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[d][2][D])

[Briefly describe or list the activities the school will implement to address this requirement.]

Class Dojo is used school wide as a communication tool. The school community liaison is also available for translation when teachers reach out to parents or when parents call into the office.

**It may be helpful to include the parent and family engagement policy review in the annual review of the Local Control and Accountability Plan Federal Addendum.*

***The policy must be updated periodically to meet changing needs of parents and family members and the LEA. If the LEA has a process in place for involving parents and family members in planning and designing the school's programs, the LEA may use that process if it includes adequate representation of parents and family members of children receiving Title I, Part A services.*