



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

John M. Patterson School **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

School Year 2021-2022

Revision Date:

5/10/2021

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, John M. Patterson School 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).

John M. Patterson School 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

John M. Patterson School 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.

Each Spring, parents are invited to review and give their input into this policy and the compact. This policy was updated based on parent input that was solicited at a virtual Google meeting on May 10, 2021. Each term there will be a School Advisory Council meeting giving parents the opportunity to discuss their ideas for their child's education. Parents are also invited each Fall to learn about the Title I requirements and each Winter to jointly develop the school plan and budget.

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

John M. Patterson School 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.

John M. Patterson will hold the Annual Title I Meeting in September on Back to School Night. Parents will be informed of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved. Also at this meeting, parents will be given information about the state's academic content standards and assessments, ways to work with educators, and strategies and systems in place to help parents monitor student progress. This will be an opportunity to distribute information and copies of the revised Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. These documents will also be on our Patterson website.

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

John M. Patterson School 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.

Parents will receive the revised Parent and Family Engagement Policy in the Fall at Back to School Night. School Messenger, Monthly calendar, Parent Workshops, information on our website, ClassDojo, and flyers are sent home notifying of meeting dates. Meetings are held in the early evening to accommodate parent schedules and increase participation. The outdoor marquee(sign) and our website notifies parents of important dates and activities. All school district correspondence is available, at our parent information center, in various languages. Interpreters, through the school district, are available. Translations to any document can be made upon request. All parent communications are sent home in parent-friendly language.

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

John M. Patterson School 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.

Parents are invited to give input into the School Parent Compact at the Spring Title I Parental meeting held each spring. This year, the compact was updated with parent input from the May 10, 2021 parent input meeting held On Google Meet.

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, John M. Patterson School 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:

Parents were invited to the Winter Title I Parental input meeting to discuss and give input into how the 1 percent funds will be used for parent engagement activities and programs. Based on input from parents during this year's meeting, held on January 28, 2021, Parent Involvement funds will be used to purchase communication folders and materials for parents at the Family Nights (Science, Literacy, Fitness & Health).

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

John M. Patterson School 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:

*Patterson has two Kindergarten Open House a year. Our pre-K Program (in our schoolyard building) and all neighboring daycare centers are invited. We also have a Building Bridges Meeting to build connections among these pre K programs. Invites are distributed to neighborhood daycares and to the parents in the Pre-K building. School District provided Flyers are also distributed to neighborhood stores. We also have a Parent Resource Desk, where parents can find information on FACE (Family and Community Engagement), community child care, health care, discounts on internet services, school selection, school report cards, etc. Patterson school also partners with the following organizations:
Partnership with John Heinz refuge: teaches fourth grade lessons at school, offers monthly trips to Heinz.
Partnership with Pacifico Ford: donates 100 coats for our students
Eat Right Philly: teaches healthy eating habits to students and parents
Partnership with Southwest Presbyterian Church: fundraising for needy "can drive"*

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

John M. Patterson School 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:

- 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
- 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
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, 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

Parent workshops are held throughout the year on the following topics: Google Classroom, Site Selection, Literacy and Math and Health & Wellness. During report card conferences, three times a year, parents are shown how to monitor their child's progress. Interim reports are also sent home three times a year. At the Annual meeting, held in the fall, parents are given information about the requirements of Title I, Part A, as well as the State's academic standards and assessments, how to work with educators and monitor student progress, and information about the school curriculum and academic programs.

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

John M. Patterson School 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:

Professional Development Training for all staff will be given in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Topics include Parents as Equal Parents, Cultural Awareness, and Making Parent Involvement Meaningful. Joint parent-staff SAC meetings are held to aid in being a "Patterson Team." We have a few parent volunteers. The Volunteers work in classrooms, monitor hallways and the yard, assist with class trips, etc. All parents must have the proper required clearances. Parents are also encouraged, throughout the year, to give feedback by completing a half page survey. These surveys are reviewed by administration and shared with staff during district PD days in the Fall and/or Winter as results become available.

John M. Patterson School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

Patterson has an open-door policy for a parent's concerns regarding their child's education or safety. Family Nights(every 2 months) and SAC meetings(3 times a year) are offered to all parents. Parents are invited to seasonal and award assemblies. Home visits are conducted for attendance.

Principal's Signature

Date Signed
