

Book	Policy Manual
Section	900 Community
Title	Parent/Family Engagement - Nazareth Area Intermediate School
Code	918.1
Status	Active
Adopted	August 27, 2019
Last Revised	August 25, 2020

Purpose

The Nazareth Area School District Board of Education is committed to providing a system of education that will offer equal educational opportunities in accordance with a student's interests, abilities and needs, consistent with available resources. Education is the guidance of the student through the learning process to the end that the individual becomes personally effective in a dynamic society.

The Board recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family and agrees that to effectively educate all students, the schools and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

Further, the Board recognizes parent and family engagement as an ongoing process that assists parents and families, promoting clear two-way dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as leaders and decision makers concerning the education of their children.

Guidelines

It is the policy of the Nazareth Area School District that parent engagement in the Title I school wide program in grades 4-6, at the Nazareth Area Intermediate School, is an integral part of the essence of the program. As such, all parents, including those who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, will be engaged in the Title I program through a variety of activities including but not limited to:

1. Allowing parents the opportunity to provide their opinions and preferences regarding issues, which will be considered, during the planning, reviewing and improving of the Title I parent engagement policy and school/teacher/parent/child compact.
2. Convening annual meetings where parents are invited and encouraged to attend for information on the school's participation as a Title I school, requirements, and rights for parents concerning the school's Title I program, goals and evaluation.
3. Allowing parents to request meetings with school officials and staff at any time to accommodate their schedules, including before, during, and after school.
4. Involving parents in annual meetings on the planning, reviewing and improving of the school's Title I program regarding the parent and family engagement program.
5. Providing parents with information about the Title I program during all open houses, back to school nights, and parent-teacher conferences. Resources are also available to parents on the school's website.

6. Providing parents opportunities through web resources, parent nights, and open houses on the description, explanation, and understanding of the curriculum, assessments and progress, and achievement towards the school and state's challenging academic standards. Providing assistance to parents on the understanding and explanation towards the academic standards and local testing and assessments.
7. Providing parents the opportunity, if requested, for meetings with school personnel to provide suggestions and considerations, if appropriate, in decisions related to the education of their child.
8. Allowing parents the opportunity to provide their opinions and preferences regarding issues under consideration during the planning, review, and improvement of the Title 1 School wide Plan.
9. Promoting ongoing parental engagement through parent workshops, conferences which inform parents of the state's academic standards and curriculum, student progress, adult literacy, other collaborative activities, and trainings to promote education at home.
10. Informing parents how to use technology for learning as well as digital citizenship by encouraging positive parenting skills, enhancing communication with families, increasing volunteerism and attendance at school events, enhancing learning at home through web-based activities, and increasing the number of parents in leadership and decision making roles.
11. Educating school personnel, including, but not limited to, teachers and support staff, in the value of contributions by parents and how to reach out, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent engagement programs and ties.
12. Coordinating, when feasible and appropriate, with Federal, State, and local programs which encourage and support parents towards full participation in the education of their child.
13. Promoting an engaging learning environment and develop a school culture which is trusting, empathetic, and builds positive relationships.
14. Developing surveys and other measuring instruments to determine the overall meaningful parent participation during the school year and to use the information to develop new strategies to improve active parent engagement.
15. Ensuring information related to school and parent programs is sent to parents in a format, if practicable, and in a language the parent can understand to support parents who have limited English proficiency.