



## **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*School Year 2020-2021*  
*Revision Date: 05/26/2020*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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 **Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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 school-wide 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 school-wide 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**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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.

- *We advertised and offered a Spring Title I meeting to review and gather input from the parents regarding the updating of the Family and Community Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. The meeting was held on May 26, 2020.*
- *Parents can provide additional input by completing the parent survey given in the Fall and participating in meetings offered throughout the year.*

**Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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 school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

*The Title I Informational Meeting will be held during our Back to School Night in September 2020. School leadership will present on the topics above, plus academic standards, assessments, how to work with educators, how to monitor your child’s progress, and an overview of our curriculum.*

**Section C: COMMUNICATIONS**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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.

- *We use the following methods to notify parents regarding upcoming meetings; Phone calls, Monthly Newsletter and flyers, Home and School Meetings and SAC Meetings, School web page, E-mails*
- *We survey our parents in the Fall to gather information regarding what time of day works best for meeting and discussing activities throughout the school year.*
- *For interpretive services, HFWA utilizes the Telephonic Interpretation Services offered by the Office of Family and Community Engagement and Faith Based Partnerships.*
- *Below is a list of other ways we work to communicate with our parents:*
  - *Email Chain (grades 6-12) directly to students school email accounts*
  - *Monthly Newsletter and flyers*
  - *Presentations at Home and School Meetings Monthly*
  - *School web page*
  - *MTSS Meetings*
  - *Student Handbook & Code of Student conduct*
  - *Report Card conferences*
  - *Interim Reports*
  - *Individual correspondence of test assessment info*
  - *IEP conferences*
  - *Interagency meetings*
  - *Parent input forms and information forms for students with special needs*
  - *E-mail, Phone calls, parent conferences and home visits*
  - *High School Selection Process*
  - *Online Google Classrooms*
  - *Parent google doc email chain for each grade section*

#### **Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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.

- *We advertised and offered one Spring Title I meeting for review and provide input on the Family and Community Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. The meeting was held on May 26,2020.*
- *Parents can provide additional input by completing the parent survey given in the Fall and participating in meetings offered throughout the year.*

#### **Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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 will be invited to a Winter Title I meeting to discuss the needs and priorities of the school. An overview of the budget will be presented and parents will be encouraged to provide feedback and input on spending decisions, including the 1% Title I parent set-aside.*
- *We advertised and offered two meetings for review and input on the School Level Budget and School Level Plan. We held the Winter Title I meeting on February 3, 2020.*

## **Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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:

- *Parents have access to the school writing center where several computers are available for their use and a Chromebook Cart (purchased out of Title I funds). Throughout the year we will provide parents support and engage them with the creation of or participation in school programs.*
- *We also have contracted with the 12 + program. They work with students and parents to help better facilitate transitioning out of high school into college and preparing non-graduating students for college readiness.*

## **Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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:
    - 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
    - IB exams
- *The Title I Informational Meeting will be held on September 24, 2020 during our Back to School Night. Topics to be addressed include: Title I requirements, curriculum, the school-wide plan, academic standards, assessments, how to monitor your child's progress, and how to work with educators.*
  - *Parent workshops on accessing the school website and online lessons, homework and grades.*
  - *Memos and information sent home as provided by PDE.*

- *Hold PSSA and Keystone workshops.*
- *Hold Science Fair workshops.*
- *Home and School Association Meetings [town hall style with teachers and the administrator].*
- *Training in the SIS parent portal (offered in October, official date TBD).*
- *IB Parent Workshops*
- *High School Application Workshops*
- *College Application and FAFSA Workshops*
- *Transition information packets given at IEP meetings*
- *We will provide transportation to colleges for our parents and students this year using Title I funds (Parent Engagement Allotment).*
- *Parent portal workshops*
- *Off site parent meetings at community centers and stakeholder locations*

**Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** 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:

*The school will hold a professional development in the Fall for the staff regarding parent engagement and effective communication. Feedback from parent surveys will be discussed and incorporated in this professional development. We will ensure all staff have minimum IB training so they are able to communicate with parents the importance of IB. We will ensure all staff receive training on cultural competency (Courageous Conversations About Race, Glenn Singleton) throughout the school year.*

**Hill-Freedman World Academy** will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request such for:

*Parent surveys will be handed out and parents/guardians will be asked for their feedback and suggestions about future Title I activities.*

*Anthony Majewski*

*10.5.20*

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*Principal Signature*

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*Date*