



THE MORRISON SCHOOL

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Year 2020-2021

Revision Date: 05-11-2020

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Andrew J. Morrison** 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 **Andrew J. Morrison** 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

Andrew J. Morrison 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.

Parents will be invited to the Spring Title I parent meeting to review and update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact. This Parent and Family Engagement Policy was discussed and jointly developed at a parent meeting on May 11, 2020. Additionally, we will include parents to provide feedback at the following events:

- **Winter Title I Parental Input Meetings**
- **Student Advisory Council (SAC) Meetings**
- **Town Hall Meetings**
- **Parent input on surveys**
- **During parent-teacher conferences**

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Andrew J. Morrison 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.

An Annual Title I meeting will be held during our Back to School Night in September. At this time, the principal or designee will share information about the requirements of Title I part A, parent rights to know, state and local assessments including the PSSAs, school curriculum, how to work with educators and to track student progress. We will send home flyers, announced via our Robo-Call and school calendar to notify parents regarding this event.

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

Andrew J. Morrison 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.

- **All communication will be sent home to our families in their main language. To support this we currently have a bilingual counselor and a bilingual secretary.**
- **We communicate with our parents and families using Robo-Calls, flyers for events, and a monthly school calendar.**
- **We ask that parents provide feedback on the best time for meetings and other potential barriers to parental engagement on the annual Parent Engagement Survey.**
- **Use of the Remind app and Class Dojo**

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Andrew J. Morrison 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 will be invited to our Spring Title I meeting to update the school-parent compact. At this meeting, we will review the School-Parent compact and solicit feedback from parents on best practices to improve our parent engagement and parent partnerships. This Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact was discussed and jointly developed at a parent meeting on May 11, 2020.

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Andrew J. Morrison 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:

We distribute the Family Engagement Survey to parents in order to seek input on the use of parental engagement funds and priorities for the school's parental engagement activities. We utilized the feedback from parents/guardians at the Winter Title I meeting held on January 27, 2020.

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Andrew J. Morrison 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:

We encourage parents and community members of the local Pre-K Programs to attend events held at our school. We also coordinate with the following organizations and welcome them to be apart of our SAC team.

- **Free Library of Philadelphia – Greater Olney Branch**
- **Revitalizing North 5th Street**
- **G-Pass**
- **Indochinese American Council (Morrison Scholar After School Program)**
- **Student Council**

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Andrew J. Morrison 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
 - **The Annual Title I meeting on Back to School night, held every Fall, provides an opportunity for school leadership to present information to families about Title I requirements, academic standards, assessments, monitor your child’s progress, curriculum, and how to work with educators.**
 - **Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend both of our schools Math Night Events which are offered during our school year. We hope to build parent capacity to support academic goals and progress.**
 - **Parents can monitor their child’s progress through the Parent Portal, intervention programs that children can utilize at home, interim reports and through communication from Class Dojo/Remind App.**
 - **Summer literacy materials to send home during summer break.**

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Andrew J. Morrison 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:

A Professional Development session and/or Grade Group will be offered to teachers and staff focused on communicating with parents and working with families as equal partners. Results of the parent survey will be discussed at a PD or staff meeting.

Andrew J. Morrison will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- **Open communication among teachers, parents/guardians.**
- **Utilized the Family Engagement Liaison at school, provided by the School District of Philadelphia.**
- **Involve more community members, parent volunteers and stakeholders within the community.**

Meredith G. Lowe

9.11.20

Principal Signature

Date