



## School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

*Flat Rock Middle School*

*Jade Bolton, Principal*

*School Year 2023 - 2024*

*Revision Date August 17, 2023*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Flat Rock Middle 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).

**Flat Rock Middle 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



## JOINTLY DEVELOPED

**Flat Rock Middle 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.

- Parents will be invited to provide feedback throughout the year either through in-person meetings, virtual meetings, surveys, and workshops

## ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

**Flat Rock Middle 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.

- Annual Title I Meeting will be held prior to November 1st to distribute the revised parent and Family Engagement policy
- Invitation will be sent in different formats
- Documents will be disseminated in a parent family friendly format

## COMMUNICATIONS

**Flat Rock Middle School** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Establish a Parent Task Force to attend parent meetings, complete parent surveys, collect feedback and give input
- Timely information about the Title I programs
- 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 parent and family engagement.
- 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:
  - ◆ Published in both English and Spanish
  - ◆ Posted in Schoology
  - ◆ Posted on the Family Engagement Site
  - ◆ Posted on school's website
  - ◆ Included in our Week At A Glance Friday newsletters
  - ◆ Highlighted on school's social media outlets
  - ◆ Shared through email notifications

## SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

**Flat Rock Middle 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 encouraged to attend PTO meetings to receive information and to provide feedback
- Parents will be invited to provide feedback throughout the year either through in-person meetings, virtual meetings, surveys, and workshops.

## RESERVATION OF FUNDS

**Flat Rock Middle 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 will be invited to provide feedback in the fall via a 1st Semester Family Input Survey for carryover funds and in the spring a 2nd Semester Family Input Meeting for the annual budget

## COORDINATION OF SERVICES

**Flat Rock Middle 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:

- Encouraging parents to visit the Resource Hub to check out books, study materials & activities to use at home with your child. Computer access is also available in the Hub

## BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

**Flat Rock Middle 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
- 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 (\*planned by the school not through Title 1 although we have a presence at the event):
  - ◆ Meet The Teacher\*
  - ◆ Open House\*
  - ◆ Annual Title 1 Meeting
  - ◆ Technology Meetings (Infinite Campus, Schoology, ParentSquare)
  - ◆ Parent/Student Organization Workshop
  - ◆ Flat Rock in the Community Nights
  - ◆ Heading to High School Meeting
  - ◆ Moving to Middle School Meeting
  - ◆ High School Classes in 8th Grade Meeting



- ◆ Thinking About College Meeting
- ◆ Parent Milestones Academy Meeting
- ◆ EOY Title 1 Meeting
- ◆ Camp Soaring Eagle Parent Meeting/Tour

### **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

**Flat Rock Middle 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:

- Parents are always invited to provide feedback throughout the year either through in-person meetings, virtual meetings, surveys, and workshops
- Parents are also encouraged to contact the parent liaison at [lohr.melissa@fcboe.org](mailto:lohr.melissa@fcboe.org) with suggestions, comments, or concerns at any point during the school year
- During faculty meetings and professional learning staff participate in training and activities to help them communicate and work with families
- Articles and online resources are shared with staff throughout the school year that relate to building staff capacity as suggested by families. Topics typically include information on positive phone calls, connecting with families living in poverty, engaging the community in schools, ways to welcome families mid-year, etc.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT**

**Flat Rock Middle School** will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- We will connect families with additional resources as needed