



Oxnard Union High School District

Title I, District Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy

This Parent and Family Engagement Policy (Policy) describes the means for carrying out designated Title I, Part A, parent and family engagement requirements pursuant to Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116(a).

The purpose of this Policy:

Any school district and school site receiving Title 1 funds need to ensure that all students, particularly those who are low-achieving, demonstrating proficient and advanced levels on State academic achievement standards. Title 1 funds assist schools in meeting the educational needs of students living near or at poverty levels in the attendance area served by the school. OUHSD will work with parents/guardians to develop opportunities at all grade levels to encourage and educate them to understand the importance of their involvement. Will encourage parents to get involved in district and school activities; advisory, decision making, advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home. This policy will establish expectations and objectives in carrying out student and parent services. Policy will be shared with families via summer mailer, parent handbook, district website oxnardunion.org and can also be available by contacting the district office. Contact Student Services Support, Director Shannon Houston, shannon.houston@oxnardunion.org, 805-385-5854.

How will parents and family members be involved in the development of this Policy (ESSA sections 1116[a][2][A], and 1116[a][2][F])?

OUHSD will evaluate policy annually with the input of parents for the effectiveness of district and site parent policies. This will be conducted through district DPAC/DELAC parent advisory groups that meets monthly.

How will parents and family members be involved in developing school improvement plans (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][A])?

OUHSD will support school sites districtwide in providing leadership trainings where staff, administrators, and parents will receive information/tools on the development of the plans. District will share data to assist parents in making more conscious decisions to better assist the students. Trainings and meetings will be conducted at a time that is convenient for the families to attend. District will also inform parent leaders from school sites at district advisory meetings.

How does the Local Educational Agency (LEA) provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance? Does this include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education (ESSA Section 1116 [a][2][B])?

OUHSD will work in partnership with community and private sectors to bring resources and information to families covering different needs to better support learning at home. Services and partners will cover the academic, social and personal needs of the student and parent/guardian. Some of our current partnerships to be able to provide these services are but not limited to Cal State Channel Islands, Oxnard College, UCSB, Ventura County Behavioral Health, Probation, Oxnard Police Department, VCOE, New Dawn Counseling, Parent Academy, and United Way.

It is the policy and commitment of the Oxnard Union High School District that it does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Oxnard Union High School District is an equal opportunity employer.

How will LEAs coordinate or integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other relevant federal, state, local laws, and programs (ESSA sections 1116[a][2][C], and 1116[e][4])?

OUHSD will work in coordination with county programs as Behavioral Health, Mental Health, Public Health, Probation, County Office of Education, Counseling Agencies, Cal State Channel Islands University, Oxnard College, UCSB, Promotores/Promotoras Foundation, CABE, Parent Engagement Academy, and feeder school districts to provide parent education and active engagement opportunities for parents to support their students academic and social wellbeing.

How will LEAs conduct, with meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Policy on improving academic quality of all schools served under Title I, Part A, and use the finding to design evidence-based strategies (ESSA sections 1116[a][2][D], and 1116[a][2][E])?

OUHSD will receive input from parents on specific services and trainings that have been provided for them at monthly DPAC/DELAC parent advisory meetings as well as feedback provided at site parent advisory meetings.

What are the barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by ESSA Section 1116? Please note with particular attention, parents and family members who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][D][i]):

Some of the barriers that families have shared during the evaluation of policy has been the lack of parental engagement from other parents in the activities offered from sites and district. Some parents have expressed the feeling of not feeling welcomed at a school site and school events. Parents would also like to see more involvement and have more time with site teachers and administration at parent activities like Back to School and Open House. Childcare is another barrier for some families.

What are the needs of parents and family members so that they may assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][D][ii])?

Parents would like to receive personal phone calls instead of electronic voice messages when inviting them to a parent event. Parent meetings should be offered at a time that is convenient for working families. Offer parents ESL classes to expand their communication efforts with school and have a better understanding of academic requirements. Presentations should be conducted in a parent's home language when possible or have adequate translation services available. Parents would like to see more site administrators and teachers take a more active role in parent presentations as it may pertain to informing them what students are learning and what is required from parents to assist in a more meaningful way when it comes to academics. A good venue to perform some of these activities/communications would be at Back to School.

What are the strategies used to support successful school and family interactions (ESSA Section 1116[a][2][D][iii])?

OUHSD will support families by providing different means of information to them via parent newsletters with important parent articles and tips, parent workshops covering different topics from academics, special education, college & career, and social emotional. District will coordinate family conferences in partnerships with local universities and community colleges. Partner with county programs and counseling agencies to provide parenting and social support. Will also work in collaboration with feeder school districts to provide education and information to families transitioning to the 9th grade. Categorical Counselors will provide extra support to our EL, foster, and homeless students with extra resources they might need.

LEAs provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities. This may include consultation with employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations, or individuals. What technical assistance will be provided to parents (ESSA Section 1116[a][3][A])?

It is the policy and commitment of the Oxnard Union High School District does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Oxnard Union High School District is an equal opportunity employer.

OUHSD will provide routine assistance and support to all Title 1 schools to ensure parent engagement requirements are being satisfied and activities are being implemented. School sites will receive notifications and resources to share with families. All Title I sites will hold annual meetings where they will review title I functions and services. The district will also provide trainings to provide the support to assist school sites with reminders on needs and evaluation of services to assist them in planning of their school site plans. Trainings will be provided by in-house and outside organizations.

How will LEAs reserve 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds to carry out parent and family engagement requirements (ESSA Section 1116[a][3][A])?

1% of Title I funds will be set aside for sites by district to assist them carry their activities and services for students and families. This will also be reviewed with families in the beginning of the year when sites hold their annual Title I parent meetings.

How will LEAs allot funds for parent and family engagement (ESSA Section 1116[a][3][B])?

OUHSD will fund District Parent Liaison, parent leadership trainings, parent workshops, parent event materials, parent communication mailers, translation at family workshops, trainings, and meetings. We will also offer refreshments and transportation for parent activities that will assist families to access services to encourage parent participation.

How will LEAs distribute 90 percent of the 1 percent reserve to schools (ESSA Section 1116[a][3][C])?

Based on student enrollment the remainder will be taken off the top. District will then allocate to the sites for services and activities based on their enrollment. District and sites will involve families of children served in Title I schools in the decisions about how this percentage of funds be spent for parent and family engagement.

How will LEAs provide assistance to parents and families in understanding the state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I, Part A requirements, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators to help all students succeed (ESSA Section 1116[e][1])?

OUHSD sites will hold annual Title I meetings to inform them of requirements and expectations. They will also review site plans for activities and services using Title I funds. District will coordinate presentations at feeder schools and also work with 9th grade families to educate them on high school/A-G requirements as well as different methods of checking students' progress and attendance. Will also share methods of communication with school staff and teachers. Will train and receive feedback from parent leaders at our monthly DPAC/DELAC regarding these topics. Will send out parent newsletters and parent event flyers to Title I families so they can be informed of important school information as well as parent engagement opportunities. District will host/partner to conduct family conferences focusing on higher education, academic requirements, and resources available.

How will LEAs provide materials and training to help parents and families work with their children to improve their achievement, such as literary training and using technology (ESSA Section 1116[e][2])?

OUHSD will provide parent trainings on how to understand and navigate parent communication tools such as ParentVue & Parent Square which are tools used by the district to keep parents informed of student academic performance and attendance. Will also provide basic computer skills to better utilize these resources. These resources are also utilized to communicate with teachers and site staff. District will notify parents and school sites of resources available such as free ESL classes for parents and other parents workshops coordinated for families districtwide.

How will LEAs educate teachers, instructional support staff, principals, and other school leaders and staff, with the assistance of parents and families, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and families, and reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and families as equal partners, implementing and coordinating parent and family programs to build ties between parents and families, and the school (ESSA Section 1116[e][3])?

It is the policy and commitment of the Oxnard Union High School District does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Oxnard Union High School District is an equal opportunity employer.

Will work with site administration and professional development department to help educate staff in all capacities to better assist our families. Will provide periodic trainings during the school year for principals to better assist staff to better support our Title 1 families and they can meet the family's particular needs. Will develop practices to facilitate and enhance parent and family engagement as well as develop welcoming environments and improve two-way communication with parents and family members.

How will LEAs coordinate and integrate parent and family involvement programs with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent and family resource centers that encourage and support parents and families in more fully participating in the education of their children (ESSA Section 1116[e][4])?

OUHSD will partner with local school districts that feed into our district to better support and communicate with these families. Will conduct family workshops at the feeder sites to assist with transition topics and support. Will partner with local universities and colleges to offer higher information to better support higher education goals. District will partner with community partners to offer the social and emotional resources some of our families might need. District will coordinate a yearly health and wellness fair to provide community resources, health screenings, produce, and other important connections to other services.

How will LEAs ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand (ESSA Section 1116[e][5])?

OUHSD will review with our parent leaders at our district advisory groups and receive feedback and suggestions. Practices have been shared with principals when sharing out school wide communication to parents to be sent out in Spanish & English for any written communication or school notices. Phone messages are to be sent by personal message as well as utilizing on-line programs to communicate with parents. If possible, personal phone calls will be made to families to invite them to special parent events. District will send out parent newsletter in Spanish & English to all Title I families informing them of upcoming district parent events and resources. School sites will send out summer mailer in Spanish/English with important school information and upcoming events.

How will LEAs provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section (ESSA Section 1116[e][14])?

OUHSD will review and receive feedback from school sites as well as parents from Title I sites and will coordinate accordingly depending on the need of parents of designated school sites.

How will the LEA ensure that the Parent and Family Engagement Policy is in a format and language that is easy for the parents and families to understand (ESSA Section 1116[f])?

OUHSD will review and discuss current policy with parents at district advisory meetings and take input. Will review policy with parents annually and make changes accordingly.

This Policy was adopted by the Oxnard Union High School District on May 15, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of 2020-2021 school year.

The Oxnard Union High School District will distribute this Policy to all parents and families of students participating in the Title I, Part A program on, or before: August 26, 2020.

It is the policy and commitment of the Oxnard Union High School District does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Oxnard Union High School District is an equal opportunity employer.