

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**REGULATION No. 910
COMMUNITY**

DISTRICTWIDE PARENT*/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Carson City School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents, guardians and families in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 (20 U.S.C §6303b). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and guardians of participating children.
- Consistent with ESSA, the District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level Parent Involvement and Family Engagement (PIFE) policies meet the requirements of ESSA and each includes, as a component, a school-parent/guardian compact consistent with Section 1116 of ESSA.
- The District will incorporate this districtwide PIFE policy into its Local Education Association (LEA) Plan developed in accordance with ESSA.
- In fulfilling its Title I, Part A, parent/family engagement obligations, the District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation by parents and guardians of English Learners, parents and guardians of children with disabilities and parents and guardians of migratory children, including providing information and school reports at least four times each year in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents and guardians understand.
- The District will submit any comments it receives from parents and guardians who are not satisfied with the parent involvement and family engagement component of its LEA plan with the filing the District submits to the State Department of Education. The District encourages all parents of K-12 students to provide feedback concerning the LEA Plan.

**As used in the policy/regulation, the term "parent" means parent or guardian.*

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- The District will involve the parents and guardians of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1% of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent/family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 95% of the 1% reserved goes directly to the Title I schools. This can include the salaries of parent involvement facilitators, materials, and supplies for activities.
- The District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent involvement and family engagement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent involvement and/family engagement means the participation of parents, guardians, and families in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) the implementation of the goals of the Strategic Plan;
- (B) that parents, guardians and families play an integral role in their children's learning;
- (C) that parents, guardians, and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's education at school;
- (D) that parents, guardians, and families are full partners in their children's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their children;
- (E) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in ESSA.

PART II: DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The District will take the following actions to involve parents and guardians in the joint development of its districtwide PIFE plan under Section 1116 of the ESSA:
 - The District will work in consultation with each Title I school to appoint parent/guardian representatives to serve on the District's Strategic Plan Committee and the Community Professional Committee (PLC). These committees will help develop and update the District's PIFE Policy.

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2. The District will involve parents and guardians in the process of school review and improvement under ESSA by encouraging parental and guardian participation in all School Performance Plan (SPP) committee activities. The District will provide, train, and encourage parents and guardians to better understand the school review and improvement process so that parents are knowledgeable of the process and can make informed contributions to SPP committees.
3. The District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent, guardian, and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
 - The District Director of Grants and Special Projects will work with the District staff, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement and the Nevada State Advisory Council on Family Engagement to provide professional development to the Title I funded schools for parent, guardian, and family engagement. Research-based programs and best practices will be shared with the school and parent/guardian groups at each school site.
4. The District will coordinate and integrate parent involvement and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A, with parent, guardian and family engagement activities of other programs such as but not limited to:
 - Nevada PTA, Nevada PTO, State/Federal Pre-K, the Carson City Early Childhood Council, Title III, and 21st Century Community Learning Centers.
5. The District will take action to conduct, with the involvement of parents and guardians, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the District's PIFE policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and guardians in parent/family engagement activities, with particular attention to parents and guardians, who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have English Learners, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The District, with the involvement of parents and guardians will use the findings of the evaluation about its PIFE policy and activities to design strategies for more effective collaboration between home and school.
 - The Director of Grants and Special Projects will collect data on parent and guardian involvement annually through a districtwide needs assessment. Data will be collected from parents, guardians, teachers and administrators and will be reported back in time to guide program improvements in working towards more effective parent involvement and family engagement for the next school cycle.

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6. The District will build strong parent involvement and family engagement in all of its schools through the following activities:

A. The District will provide assistance to parents and guardians in understanding topics such as the following:

- the Nevada Academic Content Standards;
- the Nevada School Performance Framework;
- State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
- the requirements of Title I, Part A, of the ESSA of 2015;
- how to monitor their children's progress;
- how to work with educators, and
- understand college and career readiness.

B. The District will, with the assistance of the Nevada Department of Education Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement and the Nevada Advisory Council on Family Engagement, build parent involvement and family engagement by providing information on programs and resources such as:

- Parent enrichment classes;
- Information on college and career readiness;
- School performance planning;
- Online access to curriculum and student grades/progress;
- Parent education programs in English and Spanish;
- Cultural programs;
- Materials to work with their children at home in reading and math;
- Districtwide social media anti-drug and anti-bullying programs for parents,
- Invite parents to the Superintendent's Community PLC, and
- Other programs/strategies as identified.

C. The District will, in collaboration with parents and guardians, educate all District staff in how to reach out to and work with parents and guardians as equal partners. The District will implement and coordinate PIFE programs designed to bridge the gap between parents/guardians and schools by:

- Working with partners such as the Nevada Department of Education Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement, the Nevada Advisory Council on Family Engagement, as well as local, state, and national parent teacher associations, to provide professional development on parent involvement and family engagement to its administrators, teachers, and support staff. The training will include

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information on how to utilize and implement existing resources such as the Nevada State Education Involvement Accord, parent councils and professional learning communities to leverage parent/family engagement.

- D. The District will, to the extent feasible, coordinate Title I PIFE programs and activities with other District and community programs that encourage and support parents and guardians in more fully participating in their children's education. These programs include, but are not limited to: State Pre-K, local preschools, the McKinney-Vento Students in Transition Program, Head Start, The Ron Wood Center, and Partnership Carson City, and the School Based Health Center.
- E. The District will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents and guardians in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and to the extent practicable, in language the parents can understand:
- The District will use a variety of media methods to communicate the availability of programs to parents and guardians. These methods include but are not limited to, direct mail to home, flyers sent from school, posts on the District and school websites, phone messages, email, and collaboration with other related programs. The District will provide communication in other languages when possible.

PART III: DISCRETIONARY DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The districtwide PIFE policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the District, in consultation with its parents and guardians, chooses to undertake to build parents' and guardians' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under the ESSA:

- Inform parents and guardians about the professional development topics on Early Release days and Professional Development days, teachers, principals, and other educators receive which is designed to improve student achievement;
- Inform parents and guardians about literacy training and how it will benefit their children. Eligible schools will utilize Title I, Part A funds for this training, if the District has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding;
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement and family engagement activities, including transportation

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and child care costs, to enable parents and guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions; and put a system in place to increase awareness of these resources and services;

- Create a districtwide network of parent/guardian ambassadors to enhance parent involvement and family engagement at each school;
- Strongly encourage parents and guardians to commit time to volunteering at schools to assist with events such as open houses, family events, and holiday activities at least four times a year;
- Whenever possible, provide communication, whether verbal, written, or via social media in the parent/guardians' language of choice; (i.e., newsletters, Facebook)
- Establish a District parent/guardian advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent involvement and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Offer programs on weekends as well as weekdays, and at various times during the day;
- Develop appropriate roles for local organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent/family engagement activities;
- Provide other reasonable support for parent involvement and family engagement activities under the ESSA as parents and guardians may request;
- Provide multicultural activities and festivals that include many cultures;
- Develop programs that provide information on the elements of a Safe & Respectful Learning Environment;
- Provide clear and specific expectations for parents regarding school and student outcomes;
- Adopt accepted practices that encourage participation in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities by students in Title I schools;
- Ensure Drug-Free/Bully-Free school environments;
- Provide Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs for families; and
- Provide more districtwide events to showcase students; (i.e., Band-O-Rama, Choirpalooza).

NRS 392.457; NRS 385.635; 20 U.S.C. §6303b; 20 U.S.C. §6318

Adopted: January 22, 2008

Revised: December 23, 2014

July 11, 2017

June 11, 2019