



Swenson Arts/Tech High School **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

School Year 2019-2020
Revision Date: 04/4/2019

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Swenson Arts and Technology High 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).

The **Swenson Arts and Technology High 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

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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 are invited to a Title I Spring Parent Meeting where they provide input on the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact.
- Parents are invited to attend SAC meetings to discuss a variety of school issues.
- Parents' opinions/interests are solicited via various surveys.

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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.

Our Annual Title 1 Meeting will take place during Back to School Night in September, 2019. At this time, we will share our Parent Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact and review all information related to Title 1. The Parent Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact are also included in the annual Swenson Arts and Technology High School Student/Family Handbook.

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

Swenson Arts and Technology High School 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.

1) The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be distributed at Back to School Night/Annual Title I Meeting as well as posted on the school webpage and included in the Student/Family Handbook.

2) Bi-monthly SAC Meetings

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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 invited to a Title I Spring Parent Meeting where they provide input on the development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact.

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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:

The budget will be shared during the Winter Title I Parental Input Meeting. Parents will be able to provide input on the budget during this meeting.

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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, 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:

- Training and deploying staff with parental involvement duties (e.g., Family and Community Engagement Liaison and Bilingual Counselor Assistants) to assist school in implementing parent involvement.
- Making available the staff of the Office of Educational Equity, Office of School Support, and Office of Language Access Services and Community Outreach and regional staff for technical assistance.
- Coordinating through regional Grants Compliance Liaison technical assistance to schools and parent organizations, including Home and School Associations.
- Providing coordination of professional development efforts through the Office of Family and Community Engagement.

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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; and
- 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:
 - 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
 - f) FASFA workshops
 - g) Technology workshops
 - h) Parent Resource Center

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Swenson Arts and Technology High 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:

- Relationship Building Professional Development
- Teacher/Parent Workshops to create student contracts that involve both parents as well as school faculty and staff.
- Districtwide professional development where staff will review parent survey results and discuss how to incorporate parent suggestions/concerns.

Swenson Arts and Technology High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Encouraging parents to fill out the annual parent surveys.
- Sending in a note or email requesting various supports
- Collaborating with the Family and Community Engagement Office who provide workshops to school on parent involvement.