

BUREAU OF *Federal* EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Parent and Family Engagement

Overview

Parent engagement is critical to student success. When parents, teachers and school administrators work cohesively to support the student experience, then students are more inclined to achieve academic success.

According to the National Association for Family, School and Community Engagement (NAFSCE), “truly effective family engagement involves the development of genuine relationships with families, is part of the fabric of the school community and provides equitable opportunities for families to participate” in their children’s education (2019, Evidence-Based Practices for Family Engagement). Therefore, it is fundamental for local educational agencies and schools to create and regularly maintain an open line of communication where parents are encouraged to actively engage in their children’s education. Research by Caspe and Weiss also assert that “families play a central role in supporting learning and building learning pathways” (Joining Together to Create a Bold Vision for Next Generation Family Engagement, Global Family Research Project, 2018).

What is Parent and Family Engagement?

Parent and Family Engagement is a required component of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act under Title I, Part A requires that each local educational agency (LEA) that receives Title I, Part A federal funds jointly agree upon, develop in collaboration with and formally distribute a parent and family engagement policy in a format understandable by all parents and families. Florida school districts and schools that receive Title I federal funds shall in genuine collaboration with parents and families, create a written parent and family engagement policy. The Every Student Succeeds Act requires that local educational agencies provide ample opportunities for parents and families to actively participate in the development, implementation and annual review of the parent and family engagement policy (PFEP) by offering flexible dates and meeting times.

Resources:

[National Association for Family, School and Community Engagement The Every Student Succeeds Act](#)

Contact

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Parent and Family Engagement

Funding Requirement

Each district is required to reserve at least one percent of its Title I funds to carry out PFEP activities. These PFEP funds must be used for at least one of the below activities:

- ✓ Supporting programs that reach families at home, in the community and at school
- ✓ Disseminate information focused on engagement of economically disadvantaged families
- ✓ Granting sub-grants to schools to collaborate with community-based organizations or businesses that have a track record of improving family engagement
- ✓ Any other activities that the district believes is appropriate to increase engagement