

## **Parkside Education Center Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

- *This parent and family engagement policy is in effect during the school year 2020-2021.*
- *The parent pertains to the parents/guardians of Parkside Education Center students.*
- *The students attending Parkside Education Center are in kindergarten and first grader. Kindergarten is a full day program.*

**Purpose:** The Parkside Education Center recognizes the primary role parents and family play in the education, welfare, and values of their children. The school is committed to the belief that all students can learn and acknowledges that schools and families share a commitment to the educational success of students.

**Definition:** Parental and family engagement shall be defined as an ongoing process that assists parents and families to meet their basic obligation as a child's first educator, promotes clear two-way dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as participants in the education of their children in kindergarten and first grade.

**Authority:** The school recognizes that the responsibility for each student's education is shared by the school and the family and acknowledges that schools and families must work as knowledgeable, cooperative partners to effectively educate all students. The school shall support the development, implementation and continued evaluation of a parental and family involvement program that will involve parents of kindergarten and first grade students in a variety of roles.

### **Guidelines:**

The Parkside Education Center agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

1. Parkside Education Center will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents with children in the Title I Reading Program.
  - Parents and families will be issued an invitation to attend meetings to write, review, and revise the parent and family engagement policy.
  - Parents and families will participate in the writing, reviewing, and revising of the policy.
  - While developing and revising the policy, parents will have the opportunity to read, review, and/or make any comments or suggestions for change.
2. An annual meeting will be held to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. This meeting will be held annually at Meet the Teacher Night.
3. Parent meetings including parent conferences will be held at different times of the day throughout the year.

4. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities.
5. Parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Title I program.
  - At the annual meeting, Title I improvement will be discussed.
  - Parents will be given surveys to complete and provide input at the end of the school year.
6. Parents will receive timely information about the Title I program through Meet the Teacher Night and the district website ([www.palmerton.org](http://www.palmerton.org)).
7. The school will provide parents with the following:
  - explanation of curriculum at Meet the Teacher Night and upon request;
  - opportunity to review curriculum at the curriculum office, Parkside Education Center Title I Office and also on the district website ([www.palmerton.org](http://www.palmerton.org));
  - explanation of academic assessments at meetings, conferences, and through written reports;
  - explanation of benchmark levels students are expected to meet at annual meetings, conferences, and thorough reports;
  - explanation of Pennsylvania Core Standards and student achievement standards;
  - explanation of local academic assessments and how to monitor student progress;
8. Parent/teacher meetings are held annually at the school and additional meetings offered if requested regarding decisions relating to the education of their children.
9. The school will jointly develop with parents a partnership/compact outlining how parents, entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
10. The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement.
11. There is a parent resource center available on the wall across from the main office at Parkside Education Center. Online resources are available as well.
12. Parents may request additional materials, training and meetings.

*In the event of school closures, the Title I team will make a good faith effort to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in this document through distance learning, as outlined in the Palmerton Area School District's Continuity of Education Plan.*