



## Title I Parent & Family Involvement Plan

Lafayette Public Charter School is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. We want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to support high achievement of our children. We can't do this job alone. Parents and families play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

### **Part I. District Expectations**

Lafayette Public Charter School agrees to implement the following requirements:

1. The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
2. Consistent with section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
3. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, 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.
4. The school district will incorporate this district wide parent and family engagement policy into its district plan developed under section 1112 of the ESSA.

5. If the district plan for Title I, Part A found in the State Educational Record View and Submission (SERVS), developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the Minnesota Department of Education.

6. The school district with a Title I, Part A allocation of over \$500,000, will 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 parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

7. The school district will be governed by the following definition of the term "parent" includes legal guardian or other person standing in place of a parent (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

8. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- a. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- b. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- c. that 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. that other activities are carried out, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

## **Part II. Description of How the District and School Will Implement Required Components**

1. Lafayette Public Charter School will engage parents and families who have Title I students in developing/revising the district and school policy. Lafayette Charter will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.

2. Lafayette Public Charter School will take the following actions to engage the parents and families in jointly developing the district Title I plan (section 1112) which is in the SERVS application and the development and review of the Schoolwide or Title I Targeted Assistance Plan. If applicable the Comprehensive Support and Improvement and the Targeted Support and Improvement plan, in the schools' identified for improvement plans. [Section 1111(D) (1)(2)] Lafayette Public Charter School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.

3. Lafayette Public Charter School will coordinate technical assistance and other support that is necessary to build the capacity of staff in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. This could include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders and philanthropic organizations or individuals with this experience in effectively engaging families in education.

Lafayette Public Charter School staff have the opportunity to receive staff development regarding effective parental involvement. LCS will offer a number of flexible meeting options, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

4. Lafayette Public Charter School will coordinate and integrate with federal, state and local programs, including public preschool programs, to implement effective parent and family engagement strategies that improve student achievement and school performance.

Lafayette Public Charter School offers Pre-Kindergarten. Our Pre-Kindergarten program includes parental involvement opportunities throughout the year and parent volunteers are always welcomed in the classroom. LCS works with local districts to provide resources for early childhood screening and as a resource for early intervention services.

5. Lafayette Public Charter School will take the following actions to conduct, with the engagement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy (programs/activities) in improving the academic achievement of Title I students and the schools.

Reviewing and evaluating the parent and family engagement activities/programs:

- a. Identify barriers and the needs of parents and family members that keep them from participating in their child's education, especially the economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited English proficiency or any racial or ethnic minority.
- b. Identify the needs of the Title I parents and family members to assist the learning of their children and the teachers and school staff.
- c. Identify strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

As a small school all staff look at each child individually, looking at their test scores, daily work and overall performance. A discussion happens of what areas that child needs more assistance in and then families are contacted. A Title I form is sent out notifying parents of rights and instructional areas that will be targeted. Title I teachers keep in contact with parents/guardians during the year to discuss findings and progress. Resources are provided to help assist in the school to home connections in the Title I services. The Title Teacher sits in during parent-teacher conferences to talk about what has been worked on and to keep communication lines open.

6. Lafayette Public Charter School will use the findings of the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement as necessary and to revise the parent and family engagement policy as necessary.

Throughout the school year families are encouraged to give us feedback on what is working well or needs improvement on communications, academics, etc. A Family Survey is handed out to each family in school. The information that is collected is used to help determine what items may need to be discussed and possibly changed. If there is information particular to a plan or policy, the policy committee will discuss, review and make any necessary changes.

7. Lafayette Public Charter School will involve parents in activities at the district level. This could be establishing a parent advisory board that represents the population of Title I parents and family members, that develops, evaluates and reviews or revises the parent and family engagement policy.

Parents are invited to attend an annual meeting that discusses Title I and will review the Title I Parent & Family Engagement policy at the Parent Input meeting. Title I Parents are given the opportunity to be part of the policy

committee in which the Title I Parent & Family Engagement policy will be reviewed annually by the committee and reviewed by the board.

8. Lafayette Public Charter School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, when the parents of participating children are available to attend. The Title I annual meeting will inform parents about the Title I program, explain the requirements of parent and family engagement and the rights and responsibilities of the parents to be involved.

The Title I annual meeting is held during the Parent Input meeting at Lafayette Public Charter School.

9. Lafayette Public Charter School will offer flexible meeting times during morning, evening or weekends and may provide transportation, child care or home visits.

The Title I annual meeting is held during the Parent Input meeting at Lafayette Public Charter School. If families are unable to attend we also provide a link for Zoom and it will be recorded for anyone's viewing.

10. Lafayette Public Charter School will involve parents in the planning and review of the school improvement plan and the joint development of the schoolwide plan when applicable. If the schoolwide plan is not satisfactory to the parents, submit comments on the plan when submitted to the district. [Section 1114(b)]

During the meeting parents are encouraged to voice if they would like items changed or looked at in the plan in which can be discussed further. If families do not feel comfortable speaking out at the meeting, they are asked to contact the director or Title teacher by phone or email with any questions or concerns.

11. Lafayette Public Charter School will provide assistance to parents of Title students:

- a. Timely information about programs offered to engage in their child's education.
- b. An explanation of the curriculum, state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, and the achievement levels of the state academic standards.
- c. If they request, opportunities for regular meetings to hear their suggestions and participate in decisions related to their child's education.

Again, Lafayette Public Charter School offers an annual meeting to discuss Title services and to inform families of the program and get familiar with who is teaching and so forth. During this meeting we discuss curriculum used in the

classroom, how we focus on Minnesota Standards and report on what assessments are being used throughout the year. The Title Teacher sits down with the regular education teacher and family during conferences to discuss what they have been working on, successes and challenges. Families have regular education teachers and Title teacher's contact information to be able to ask for any additional resources they may need during the year.

### **Part III. Description of the Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

Lafayette Public Charter School will jointly develop with Title I parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement to meet the state academic standards. The compact should:

1. Describe the curriculum and instruction that help their student meet the state standards, identify where their child is performing and discuss ways the parent can support their child's education at home and at school.
2. Talk about the importance of the teachers and parents communicating on an ongoing basis at a minimum:
  - a. Conduct a parent-teacher conference in elementary schools, at least annually, during which time the compact is discussed as it relates to the individual child.
  - b. Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress.
  - c. Provide information on how parents can contact staff and staff can best contact parents, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.
  - d. Make sure that two-way meaningful communication between family members and school staff is addressed and when at all possible, is in a language the parents and family members can understand.

### **Part IV. Accessibility**

Lafayette Public Charter School will meet the requirements of parent and family engagement of Title I, to the extent practicable, we will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

If we know of families that need information in another language we will provide accordingly. We encourage families to let Lafayette Public Charter School staff know of any accommodations that may be needed.

### **Part V. Adoption**

The Lafayette Public Charter School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes and sign-in sheets.

On August 1st the Lafayette Public Charter School Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be in effect for the period of the school year.

Lafayette Public Charter School will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children and make it available to the community.