

Dassa McKinney Family Engagement Plan

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Consistent with section 1000 of the ESSA, Dassa McKinney Elementary School will ensure that the required school-level Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan meets the requirements of section 1000 and includes, as a component, a School-Parent and Family Compact that was jointly developed by families and staff members at the annual Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting.

The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- that family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- that family members are encouraged to volunteer in the school;
- that family members are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and serving on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1000 of the ESSA.

The school will build its own and the family's capacity for strong parental and family engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of family members and to support a partnership among the students, families, school and the community to improve student academic achievement.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DASSA MCKINNEY WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and review of its school Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan:
 - Provide family members with a questionnaire that asks them for their input
 - Annually discuss the parental engagement documents at a Title I PAC meeting and ask family members to help revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan, The Title I Plan and the Title I School-Parent and Family Compact, as needed
 - Provide an opportunity for family members to comment through a virtual box on our website, during school or district meetings, and through a survey after Title I Family Engagement Events
 - The District's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, as well as the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan is available for review at all times on the Title I page of the school's website
2. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall hold an annual meeting to inform family members of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of family members to be involved in Title I, Part A programs.

- The school will invite all parents and family members to this meeting, taking questions and listening to comments and ideas for school improvement
 - The annual Title I meeting will be held in conjunction with a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting in the fall
 - The Schoolwide Title I Program Plan, the Parent-School and Family Compact, the Moniteau School District's Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan will be reviewed and displayed on the Title I page of the school's website
 - A copy of the Schoolwide Title I Plan is available in the school office for review. Translation of this document is available by Google Translate upon request.
 - Suggestions from the annual meeting will be kept and necessary changes will be made to the Title I documents during a PAC Meeting
3. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall provide, if requested by parents or family members, opportunities held at flexible times for regular meetings, including parent conferences, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. To enable parents and family members to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions, reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities, including transportation, child care or home visits may be funded by Title I funds. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- Arrange parent meetings and other Parent and Family Engagement Events
 - Send letters, text messages and emails home, as needed
 - Arrange for flexible scheduling for parent meetings
 - Discuss concerns at Title I PAC meetings and/or MTSS Decision Making Team meetings
4. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the process of planning, joint development of the Schoolwide Title I Program Plan, review and improvement of the school's Title I programs:
- Hold small group planning meetings of the Parent Advisory Council
 - Involve the parents and family members on the PTO, PAC and district-wide School Board sub-committee meetings (i.e. Education) in the review of the Schoolwide Title I Program Plan
5. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall provide families information in a timely manner about Title I programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the challenging State academic standards, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, how to monitor student progress and how to work with the teachers to improve the achievement of their children.
- The most important and rigorous academic content standards for grades K-6 will be highlighted in flyers and/or our seasonal newsletters to provide families with better insight into the rigorous instructional standards of Pennsylvania.
 - A discussion about Title I will be held with families at a PTO meeting
 - Conduct Title I meetings or Family Engagement Events on identified areas of need

- Phone, email or text reminders from the school or teachers (Skylert, ParentSquare, etc.)
 - Home-School information, PSSA results and Benchmark Assessment information will be sent home to parents and family members, as needed, throughout the school year
 - Grades K-6 ELA and math curriculum standards are posted on our website
 - School information, reminders and messages about curriculum and instruction will be mentioned in various teacher letters, school newsletters and on the school's website
 - Family resources are available on the website and at the school
 - Additional family resources can be ordered online from our local Intermediate Unit 4 (the order form is on our website)
 - Teach parents and family members to regularly communicate with their child's teacher
6. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall provide materials and training to help parents and family members work with their children in the areas of improving student achievement including literacy training and technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), child development, child rearing and additional topics parents may request.
- Hands-on programs at Family Engagement Events and Title I parent and family meetings
 - Skyward training during Parent Teacher Conference day or when parents or family members need help
 - Information will be displayed on Chromebooks at the Book Fair on how to find a child's reading level
 - Copyright presentation is available in the Title I section of the school's website
7. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall, with the assistance of its parents and families, educate its teachers in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between families and schools.
- Encourage teachers to attend PTO Meetings
 - Arrange for flexible scheduling of Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - Participate in Home Visits as needed
 - Send a parent or family member to the annual SPAC Conference
 - Provide information on the parent and family perspective to teachers
8. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including public preschool programs. The school will also conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:
- Hold Summer Kindergarten Camp and Orientation
 - Invite Pre-K students to various school events
 - Distribute the Kindergarten Story Book to new kindergarteners
 - Provide parent resource information
 - Include the school's Preschool teachers in professional development opportunities
 - Invite Pre-K Counts, Head Start and other preschool families to Title I Family Engagement events

- Facilitate kindergarten transition meetings by collaborating with Early Intervention personnel
 - Collaborate with the preschool teachers in the building to create “Step Up” activities for the PreK students with the kindergarten students at the end of the school year
9. Dassa McKinney Elementary shall take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:
- Newsletters from teachers and the office will be sent home with students and/or made available electronically
 - Email or text reminders and notes sent home from the school will be written so that they are easily understood
 - ParentSquare calls home will be made when necessary
 - Notes and newsletters will be translated to foreign languages, if the need arises