

Parents' Rights in ESSA, Section 1116

Statutory Reference: Section 1116 (a-f)

- (1) *IN GENERAL*- A local educational agency may receive funds under this part only if such agency conducts outreach to all parents and family members and implements programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in programs assisted under this part consistent with this section. **Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.**

Shall develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to:

- Written Local Education Parent & Family Engagement Policy (a)(2)
- Written School Parent & Family Engagement Policy (b-c)
- School-Parent Compact (d)

Parents need to be involved in developing these documents and agree on the final product. Each parent must receive a copy of each of the above listed.

Annual Evaluation (a)(2)(d)

- Evaluation must be conducted with meaningful involvement of parents

Reservation of Funds (a)(3)(B)

- Parents shall be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved are allotted for PFE activities

Convene an Annual Meeting and involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way (c)(1-5)

- Annual meeting will convene at a convenient time and all parents are invited to attend (c)(1)
- Parents should be provided a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening and may use Title I, Part A funds to pay transportation, child care, or home visits
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in planning, review and improvement of PFE activities, including PFE Policy and School-Parent Compact
- Provide parents:
 - Timely information about programs
 - Description and explanation of curriculum in use at the school
 - If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children

Communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis (d)(2)(A-D)

- At least annually discuss the compact at parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools (d)(2)(A)
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their child's progress (d)(2)(B)
- Reasonable access to staff (d)(2)(C)
- Ensure regular two-way communication between home and school (d)(2)(D)

Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part (e)(1-2, 5, 14)

- **Shall** provide assistance to parents in understanding State standards and assessments (e)(1)
- **Shall** provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement (e)(2)
- **Shall** ensure information is sent to parents in a format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand (e)(5)
- **Shall** provide reasonable support for PFE activities (e)(14)116

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