

**Dover High School
ESSA Consolidated Grant
Parent Involvement Policy**

**Board of Education
Adoption Date: October 17, 2017**

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Dover High School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Dover High School will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, Dover High School will work to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and includes a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Dover High School will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, Dover High School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency and parents with disabilities including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Dover High School will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A programs in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent.
- Dover High School will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and as a Title I school, will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II: Description of How Dover High School Will Implement Required Parental Involvement Policy Components

1. Dover High School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

The school has developed and implemented a Parent Advisory Council comprised of stakeholders of all aspects from the school and the community. The committee routinely meets and includes on their agendas initiatives that incorporate parental involvement.

2. Dover High School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

The school has developed and implemented a Parent Advisory Council comprised of stakeholders of all aspects from the school and the community. The committee involves parents in the process of school review and improvement. The high school’s Parent Advisory Council also involves parents in planning and implementing meaningful programs designed for school improvement.

3. Dover High School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist with the planning and implementing of effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

Internet access as a means of communicating with parents and/or stakeholders for upcoming events, activities, and homework assignments. Traditional mail is often used to communicate key programs and meetings. A weekly Menugram with key information related to DHS is posted on the website each week and a hard copy is distributed to all students The Genesis Parent Portal is an additional means of communicating student progress to all parents.

4. Dover High School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

Parental involvement strategies will be coordinated with other ESSA (Title IIA, Title III, and Title III Immigrant) and IDEA programs when possible.

5. Dover High School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

After each parent event an evaluation tool will be distributed so parents can provide feedback. This tool will be provided in English and Spanish in order to receive accurate feedback.

6. Dover High School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

Back to School Night, Guidance Evening Programs, and Grade 8 Parent Orientation. A parent information evening will be held to help parents understand the requirements necessary for high school graduation. Emphasis will be placed the importance of reaching a minimum score on standardized tests such as the PSAT, SAT, or Accuplacer. Dover High School, in conjunction with its guidance department, will focus on parent workshops aimed at developing an understanding of the entire college going process. This will include (but not limited to): Naviance, NCAA requirements for full or partial scholarships, Financial Aid Workshops, College Visitation process, the importance of the college essay etc.

7. Dover High School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. Dover High School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph -

- the State's academic content standards,

- the State’s student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Part A,
- how to monitor their child’s progress, and
- how to work with educators:

This will be accomplished through specific workshops, conferences, classes, and dialogues. A parent meeting will be held to discuss test scores and the effectiveness of parent involvement initiatives.

B. Dover High School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

Possible presentations include but are not limited to:

- Back to School Night*
- College and Career Planning*
- Understanding Your Child’s Report Card /Credit System*
- After the Fire*
- All In*
- Parent University*
- Guest Speakers*
- ESL Classes*
- Newsletters – The High School Years*

C. Dover High School will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

Possible strategies include but are not limited to:

- District Mentoring Program*
- New Teacher Orientations*
- Department Meetings*
- Faculty Meetings*
- Professional Learning Communities*

D. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

Possible strategies include but are not limited to:

Maintaining an active Parent Advisory Council that assists in the planning and conducting of home-school connection activities.

Developing and implementing appropriate parent meetings at key transition points such as Freshman Orientation, and as necessary with individual parents after each marking period.

E. Dover High School will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

Bilingual Communication including but not limited to: report cards, progress reports, emails, postcards, letters to the home, announcements, and school staff members who are able to converse bilingually with parents. Several parent meetings may also be held in both languages. When possible, translation devices are provided for parents who have difficulty understanding a parent workshop in English. The DHS website also has translation capabilities through Google Translate.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Dover High School, in consultation with its parents, will support children's academic achievement by implementing the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times;
- adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement; and
- provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.