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Dover Middle School
ESSA Consolidated Grant
Parent Involvement Policy

Board of Education

Adoption Date: November 7, 2017

PART I: General Expectations

Dover Middle School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Dover Middle 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 Middle School will work to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policy meets the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and includes, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Dover Middle School will incorporate this 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 Middle 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 Middle 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 Middle 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 Middle School Will Implement Required Parental Involvement Policy Components

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

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

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

Dover Middle School has developed and implemented an ESSA Schoolwide Committee comprised of stakeholders of all aspects from the school and the community. The committee involves parents in the process of school review and improvement by participating in the development and evaluation of the school's Title I Schoolwide Plan.

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

The school maintains an up-to-date school website to inform parents and stakeholders about school-related activities and upcoming events. In addition, The Tiger Tales (formerly Menugram), a school newsletter, is sent home weekly and posted on the school website. Technical assistance will be provided to parents through the monthly distribution of various newsletters such as: Home & School Connection, Reading Connection Intermediate Edition, and Math & Science Intermediate Edition.

4. Dover Middle 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 Middle School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A program. The evaluations 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). *Dover Middle 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.

Two (2) Parental Involvement meetings will be held annually to review, evaluate, and revise the school's Parental Involvement Policy. Additionally, after each parent event an evaluation tool will be distributed allowing parents the opportunity to provide feedback.

6. Dover Middle School will build the school's and parent's 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:

A. *Dover Middle 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:

Examples of the types of strategies that will be implemented are:

Fall Parent Conferences and frequent communication via email, phone or face-to-face meetings.

- *Community Math Night*
- *Community Literacy Night*
- *Community Science Night*
- *Distribution of Parent Newsletters*

- *A web-based ESSA Parent Resource Center, which can be accessed through a link located on Dover Middle School's web page.*

B. Dover Middle 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, by:

Possible presentations include but are not limited to:

Community Math/ STEAM Night

School Resources Night

Community Literacy Night

Community Science Night

Pushcart Players Literacy Workshop

Guest Speakers/Performers

C. Dover Middle School will educate its teachers 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

In-Service Day Programs

New Teacher Orientations

Faculty Meetings

Department Meetings

Professional Development Opportunities for Staff

Professional Learning Communities

D. Dover Middle 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-Teacher-Association, which assists in the planning and conducting of home-school connection activities.

Implementing appropriate parent meetings at key transition points such as Seventh Grade Orientation.

Providing training on Internet Safety

Providing training in Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB)

E. Dover Middle School will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school (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, Tiger Tales (formerly Menugram), postcards, letters to the home, Newsletters provided by Resources for Educators, announcements, and school staff who are able to converse with parents in both English and Spanish.*

PART III. Discretionary School Wide Parental Involvement Policy Components

1. Dover Middle 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;
 - provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.