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East Dover Elementary School

ESSA Consolidated Grant

Parent Involvement Policy

Board of Education

Adoption Date: November 7, 2017

PART I: General Expectations

East Dover Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- East Dover Elementary 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, East Dover Elementary 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.
- East Dover Elementary 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, East Dover Elementary 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.
- East Dover Elementary 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.
- East Dover Elementary 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 East Dover Elementary School Will Implement Required Parental Involvement Policy Components

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

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

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

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

3. East Dover Elementary 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:

- *Internet access as a means of communicating with parents and/or stakeholders for upcoming events and activities*
- *Parent access to school computers to update Honeywell accounts*
- *A Parent newsletter will be sent home each month, including topics on school success, reading, math and science.*

4. East Dover Elementary 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. East Dover Elementary 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). East Dover Elementary 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 to allow parents to provide feedback. The evaluation tool will also be posted on the school's webpage.

6. East Dover Elementary 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. *East Dover Elementary 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:

 - *Parent Conferences and dialogues*
 - *PARCC Parent Information Sessions*
 - *Family Literacy Nights*
 - *Distribution of monthly parent newsletters and informational flyers*
 - *A Parent Resource Library, available to all interested parents*
 - B. East Dover Elementary 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:

- *STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math)*
- *Differentiated instruction*
- *Literacy Programs*
- *Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)*

C. East Dover Elementary 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*
- *Grade Level Meetings*
- *Faculty Meetings*
- *Professional Learning Communities*

D. East Dover Elementary 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 planning and conducting home-school connection activities.

Coordinating programs such as Family Curriculum Nights and Honor Roll Assemblies.

Implementing appropriate parent meetings at key transition points such as kindergarten and seventh grade orientation.

E. East Dover Elementary 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, 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. East Dover Elementary 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.