## SOUTH ORANGE MAPLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Program 2415.04

### TITLE I - DISTRICT-WIDE PARENT/GUARDIAN AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (M)

#### 2415.04 <u>TITLE I – DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL/GUARDIAN AND FAMILY</u> ENGAGEMENT <del>INVOLVEMENT</del> (M)

#### GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents/guardians in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 11181116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents/guardians of participating children.

Consistent with Section 11181116 of the ESEA, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental/guardian involvement engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 11186(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 11181116(d) of the ESEA.

The school district will incorporate this District-Wide Parental/<u>Guardian</u> Involvement Policy into its school district's plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental parent/guardian and family involvement engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents/guardians understand.

If the school district's plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating children, the school district will submit any parent/guardian comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to if requested by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).

In the event the school district is required to reserve and spend at least one percent of the district's Title I, Part A allocation, the school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how these funds will be spent and will ensure that not less than ninety-five percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

The school district will involve the parents/guardians of children served in Title I, Part A



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schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent/guardian and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserve goes directly to the schools.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental/guardian and family engagement involvement, and expects that its Title I schools in the district will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement 1) "Parent and family engagement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- 1.a That parents/guardians play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- 2.b That parents/guardians are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- 3.c That parents/guardians 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; and
- 4.d The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 1116 of the ESEA.

In the event the State of New Jersey or the New Jersey Department of Education has a Parental Information and Resource Center, the school district will inform parents and parental organizations of its purpose and existence.

For states where a Parental Information and Resource Center is established, the school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the state.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Below is a description of how the district will implement or accomplish each of the following components outlined below (Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA):

1. The district will take the following actions to involve parents/guardians in the joint



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development of its district-wide parental and family involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:

- a. Parent Advisory Council
- b. Parent Meetings
- c. Title I Parent Workshops
- 2. The district will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 116 of the ESEA:
  - a. Parent Advisory Council
  - b. Parent Meetings
  - c. Title I Parent Workshop
- 3. The district will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental/<u>family involvement engagement</u> activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
  - a. Title I Workshops
  - b. Review of State Assessment
  - c. Annual meeting for parents to discuss assessment scores of participating students
- 4. The school district will coordinate and integrate <a href="mailto:parent/guardian">parent/guardian</a> and <a href="mailto:familto:
  - a. Notification of Title I Programs @ Preschools
- 5. The school district will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents/guardians, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parental/Guardian Involvement Engagement 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/guardian and family involvement engagement activities (with particular attention to



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parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its Parental Involvement Policyparent/guardian and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent/guardian alinvolvementengagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents/guardians) its parental/guardian and family engagement involvement policies.

(List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents/guardians will play):

- a. Evaluation will be conduct by the Curriculum & Instruction Office
- b. Parents will review this data and provide feedback to the District; the District will establish a process to respond to concerns of parents;

The school district will build the school's and parent/guardian's capacity for strong parental/guardian and family engagement involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents/guardians and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents/guardians, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- 1. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents/guardians of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described below:
  - a. New Jersey's academic content standards The challenging State academic standards;
  - b. New Jersey's student academic achievement standards The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - c. The New Jersey and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - d. The requirements of <u>Title I</u>, Part A;
  - e. How to monitor their child's progress; and
  - f. How to work with educators.(List activities, such as workshops,



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conferences, classes, both in-State and out-of-State, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

- (1.)Provide Parent Workshops that focus on supporting their child
- (2.)Parent/teacher conferences
- 2. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental/guardian and family involvementengagement, by:
  - a. Title I Parent Workshops
- 3. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents/guardians, educate its teachers, student services personnel, Principals and other school staff leaders, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents/guardians, and in how to implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs and build ties between parents/guardians and schools, by:
  - a. Professional Development
  - b. Professional Learning Communities
- 4. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental/guardian and family involvement engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent/guardian resource centers, that encourage and support parents in fully participating in the education of their children, by:
  - a. Parent/<u>Guardian</u> Workshops
  - b. Provide Supplemental materials for parents
- 5. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities,



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is sent to the parents/guardians of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand:

- a. Related letters mailed/emailed home
- b. Related letters translated

The District-Wide Parent/Guardian and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents/guardians, chooses to undertake to build parents'/guardians' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA: The additional information outlined below lists and describes discretionary activities the school district, in consultation with its parents, may undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement:

- a. <u>Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training:</u>
- b. Providing necessary literacy training for parents/guardians from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- c. Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- d. Training parents/guardians to enhance the involvement of other parents/guardians;
- e. <u>In order to maximize parent/guardian and family engagement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents/guardians who are unable to attend those conferences at school;</u>
- f. Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent/guardian and family engagement;
- g. Establishing a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- h. <u>Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent/guardian and family engagement activities; and</u>
- i. <u>Providing other reasonable support for parent/guardian and family engagement</u> activities under Section 1116 as parents may request



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j. Establishing a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;

This District-Wide Parental/Guardian and Family Involvement Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with parents/guardians of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Superintendent of Schools or designee. This Policy was adopted by the Board of Education on the adoption date noted at the end of this Policy and will be in effect for the period of one year and will be updated as needed on an annual basis. The school district will distribute this Policy to all parents/guardians of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1 of each school year. This Policy will be distributed to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents understand, at the beginning of each school year or when the child is determined eligible and begins participating in Title I, Part A programs.

As used in this policy, "parent" or "parental" refers to "parents and/or guardians."

United States Department of Education Non-Regulatory Guidance – Appendix D - District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy

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