

**YORK ACADEMY REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL  
PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY  
2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR**

**PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

York Academy Regional Charter School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- York Academy will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with all parents.
- Consistent with section 1116, York Academy will work with its LEA to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
- York Academy will incorporate this building parent and family engagement policy into its Schoolwide plan developed under section 1116 of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, York Academy will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1116 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1116 of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, York Academy will submit any parent comments with the plan to the LEA district offices.
- York Academy will involve all parents in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- York Academy will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

*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—*

- (A) that parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) that parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) that parents and families 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 1116 of the ESSA.*

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. York Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parent and family engagement policy under section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):

*The current plan will be presented to parents annually for their review. Suggestions for change will be discussed at the Annual Title I meeting. The participants will take those suggestions into account when writing the plan for the following year.*

2. York Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESSA:

*Parents will be encouraged to serve on school committees.*

3. York Academy will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

*The Title I Coordinator, Reading Specialist, and Chief Academic Officer will be available for direction, coordination, and support of implementing effective parent and family engagement activities in conjunction with the Federal Programs Office and families.*

4. York Academy will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under any offered programs by opening our programs to any interested parents whose child participates in any outside offered programs.

5. York Academy will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family 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 parent and family engagement 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 district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parent and family engagement policies.

*A survey will be sent home to all families. The York Academy Schoolwide Planning Team (SWP) will tabulate the results and present these findings to the school nurse and school counselor for review. The SWP team will use the results to plan parent and family engagement programs for the following year in partnership with the school counselor and school nurse.*

6. York Academy will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement 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. York Academy will, with the assistance of its LEA, 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:

*Workshops and meetings will be developed to present information to parents about Pennsylvania's academic standards, student academic achievement standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, monitoring children's progress, and how to work with educators.*

- B. York Academy will, with the assistance of its LEA, 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 parent and family engagement, by offering workshops on homework assistance, at-home literacy activities and discipline.

- C. York Academy will, with the assistance of its LEA and parents, 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 scheduling activities for these groups on days when students are not in school, such as in-services and professional development days.
- D. York Academy will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with outside programs affiliated with York Academy, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by opening our workshops to parents participating in outside programs affiliated with York Academy.
- E. York Academy 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:

*All meetings and workshops are advertised in the parent newsletters, invitations, and on the school website.*

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

York Academy has established a School Wide Planning Team to provide advice on all matters related to parent engagement in Title I, Part A programs in collaboration with the York Academy Parent Organization to provide advice on all matters on parent involvement.

**PART IV. ADOPTION**

This York Academy Parent and Family Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the minutes of the School Wide Planning Team meeting on November 1st, 2019.

This policy was adopted by York Academy Regional Charter School Board on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of one year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents on or before November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

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(Signature of Authorized Official)

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(Date)