



# HOMER FLEX SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

As authorized under ESEA, as amended

School Year 2021-2022  
Revision Date: 09/15/21

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## Overview

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Kenai Peninsula School District** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. The policy establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The **Kenai Peninsula School District** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in Section 1116 of the ESEA, as amended:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. [§1118(c)(3)]
- Update the school parent and family member policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents and family members of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community. [§1118(b)(1)]
- In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA, as amended, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. [§1116(e)(4)]
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA, as amended, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the district. [§1118(c)(5)]
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
    - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
    - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
    - 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; and
    - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116. [§8101(39)]

## Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

### Joint Development

**Homer Flex** will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

*The parent and family engagement policy and programs will be crafted, reviewed, and revised through a series of meetings and opportunities for input. These will include the preliminary staff meeting to discuss the policy and action plan, the Annual meeting to craft specific policy and plan items, and the committee meetings to revise said policy and action plan. Further parental/family input will occur through regular surveys and informational phone calls/emails/newsletters.*

### Annual Title I, Part A Meeting

**Homer Flex** will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I, Part A program, the nature of the Title I, Part A program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

*Flex will hold our Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved, on Wednesday, September 15 at 4:00 PM (after our early release). This meeting will occur in conjunction with our Fall Open House and our first quarter Advisory Council Meeting.*

### Communications

**Flex** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about Title I, Part A programs.
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
- If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- Information related to the school and parent and family member 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.

*The parents and family engagement policy, as well as information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and activities, will be communicated through our newsletter, which are sent out via email. These will also be available on our website.*

## School-Parent Compact

**Flex** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

During the First Semester Title I meeting, a school-parent compact will be developed/revised and distributed.

## Reservation of Funds

The **Kenai Peninsula Borough School District** will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent. *(Only applicable to districts with an allocation of \$500,000 or more.)*

- Funds reserved under this section by the district agency shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than 1 of the following:
  - (i) Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for local educational agency and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members.
  - (ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
  - (iii) Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
  - (iv) Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
  - (v) Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the local educational agency determines are appropriate and consistent with such agency's parent and family engagement policy.

Fall Open House – opportunity for input regarding Title I activities  
School Advisory Council meetings – ongoing review and input regarding Title I activities  
Flexgiving – review and approval of Parent and Family Engagement Plan  
Title I meetings – ongoing review and input regarding Title I activities, etc.

## Coordination

**Flex** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Continued coordination of Flex's community partners and resources will be coordinated through the school advisory council, as our community partners serve as vital members. Staff will also serve to facilitate regular communication with the stakeholders.

## Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

**Flex** will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents and family members with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Providing parents and family members materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the following:
  - The challenging State academic standards.
  - The State and local academic assessments.
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
  - How to monitor a child's progress.
  - How work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Periodic meetings will serve to communicate about and assist parents with various topics, including assessment and progress monitoring. These include the Fall Open House, student-led parent-teacher conferences, For the Parents meetings, Flexgiving, and First Friday.

## Building Capacity of School Staff

**Flex** will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

*Staff Inservices, including those focused on Parent/Family Engagement as well as Restorative Practices.*

**Flex** will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request.

*The “For the Parents” nights provide opportunities for parents to learn from local experts on everything from ACEs to communicating with teens. The school mental health counselor is also available to meet with parents on an “as needed” basis*

## Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional

**NOTE TO THE SCHOOL:** The school parent and family engagement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ 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, as amended:

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each Title I, Part A school–

- may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section; and
- may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

Homer Flex may provide financial support for expenses incurred by parents to be involved in Title I Meetings, including transportation and child-care costs.

Homer Flex will also work to arrange meetings at times that are more convenient for parents and family, including scheduling individual meetings over the phone.

## Adoption

This Flex parent and family member engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the minutes of the Title I Annual Meeting and the First Semester Title I meeting.

This policy was adopted by the **Homer Flex School** on **9/15/2021** and will be in effect for the period of **2021-22**. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **9/15/2021**

Christopher Brown

*Printed Name of Principal*

9/15/2021

*Signature of Principal*

*Date*