

# ESPERANZA CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19140

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*A charter school where all are welcome!*

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## **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

### **2023-2024 School Year**

To support the strengthening of parent partnerships and as Esperanza Cyber Charter School receives Title I, Part A funds, the school, and families will jointly develop, agree, and distribute a written parent and family engagement policy containing the information required by § 1116(b) and (c) of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement several initiatives.

Esperanza Cyber Charter School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in § 1116 of ESSA:

- Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the parent and family engagement policy and the development of the schoolwide plan under § 1114(b) of ESSA.
- Update the parent and family engagement policy as needed to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute the policy to parents and families of enrolled children, and publish the policy on the school website.
- Provide full opportunities to all families, to the extent practicable, to ensure participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory or homeless children; to include school reports required under § 1111 of ESSA in an understandable format, alternative formats if requested, and in a language parents understand.
- Submit any parent comments on the schoolwide plan when the school makes the plan available for feedback and if the plan is not satisfactory to the parents as required by § 1114(b) of ESSA.
- Be governed by the statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures according to the definition.

o Parent and family engagement = the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities to ensure that:

- Parents play an integral role in the child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at the school.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included in decision-making to assist in the education of their child, where appropriate.

## **PARENT PARTICIPATION**

Parents are included in the decision-making process of the Title I Budget and school instructional plan through their involvement in school improvement planning meetings, parent committee meetings, parent workshops, and other coordination efforts.

Parents are invited to the Title I presentation meeting usually held in late September or early October, followed by the Title I fall meeting and spring meetings where parents help develop the Parent and Family Engagement policy, and review the Title I budget and the school's comprehensive plan.

## **SCHOOLWIDE MEETINGS**

Parents are invited to attend the annual Title I meeting held each late September or early October where information is presented about the Title I program, the nature of the program, the parent's requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compact, and the right-to-know letter. Information is obtained via surveys to build parent capacity within school programs. Invitations are via email, and mail to all families on September 25, 2023 Title I information is included in all orientation packets and posted to the school's website and social media. An annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in the spring of each school year.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Esperanza Cyber Charter School will take the following actions to provide parents of enrolled children with timely information about Title I programs, flexible meetings, as such services relate to parent and family engagement, and information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to parents of enrolled children in an understandable format.

1. Invitations to the Annual Title I Presentation virtual meeting in September, are posted on the website, emailed, and texted to all parents/guardians.
2. Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Title I budget, and information about programs and workshop schedules are provided to attendees at the Annual Title I Presentation meeting, September 25th, 2023, and posted on the website.
  - a. A parent interest survey is provided during this meeting and the link is posted online throughout the school year, subsequent emails or mailings are given to parents to complete the survey upon enrollment of their child.

3. Monthly calendar events are posted on the website.
4. Social media, Facebook, and Instagram
5. Phone blasts as needed.
6. Letters from the coordinator of instruction and teachers are sent home when information needs to be conveyed and posted to the website.
7. Report card conferences are offered quarterly.
8. Virtual Back To School Night is scheduled for September 25th, 2023.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Esperanza Cyber Charter School will jointly develop with parents of enrolled children the school-parent compact outlining how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for improving academic achievement. The school-parent compact is a means to build and develop home-to-school partnerships to improve school culture. The school-parent compact is discussed at the spring school improvement planning meeting.

## **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Esperanza Cyber Charter School will, to the extent appropriate, coordinate and integrate Title I activities with other local, state, or federal programs.

## **BUILDING PARENT CAPACITY**

Esperanza Cyber Charter School will build capacity for strong parent and family engagement through the following workshops designed to help parents support their enrolled children:

- Provide a description and explanation of the curriculum: all curriculum maps are posted on the school's website.
- Provide a description and explanation of assessments used to measure student progress and expected achievement level goals.
- Aid in understanding topics as outlined in the parent workshop schedule listed above.
- Offer materials, resources, and training for parents to work with their child to improve academic outcomes, such as math and literacy training, using school technology, ELD & Special Ed workshops, external resource workshops, and ELD Cafe nights.

## **BUILDING SCHOOL STAFF CAPACITY**

Esperanza Cyber Charter School will build capacity for strong school leaders and effective class teachers and support personnel such as school social workers in the value of building parent partnerships, effective communication, implementation and coordination of parent programs, and building school-to-home partnerships to improve school culture and community. Additionally, school staff will develop appropriate partnerships with community-based organizations and businesses to seek help in improving the school program.