



## **Title I Parent Involvement LEA Policy**

It is the policy of the Montessori Regional Charter School's Title I program to encourage active participation of parents and those in the role of parents as required in Section 1116 of ESSA. This policy includes a commitment to family engagement by building a strong partnership that emphasizes the shared responsibilities among students, families, and staff. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort between Montessori Regional Charter School (MRCS) and parents/families.

The Board endorses the parental involvement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents of children eligible for Title I, in the development of MRCS' Title I plan. The Board also encourages such parents to participate in the process of school review and school improvement under section 1116 of ESSA.

It is the goal of the Board to educate teachers, administrators, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, to implement and coordinate parent programs, and to build ties between parents and MRCS. In accordance with this goal, MRCS will provide technical assistance and support, and provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance the overall understanding of effective parent involvement strategies.

**Objective 1: Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement and coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other Federal, State, and local laws and programs. (ESSA, Section 1116).**

1. Develop and disseminate the LEA and School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
  - a. Beginning of year school mailing
  - b. Title I Website
  - c. Board of Directors Meeting
2. Conduct an annual meeting to review and update the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement.
3. Collaboration with parent and family engagement programs; attendance of family and parent engagement conferences.
4. Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
5. Ensure Homeless students have access to Title I services if they qualify and Title funding to support them.

6. Hold at least 1 parent and family engagement professional development event per year where current strategies being used to support students in the classroom are shared with parents.
7. Establish a parental and family engagement contact person.

**Objective 2: Provide technical assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. (ESSA, Section 1116)**

1. LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy is distributed to all teachers to guide the development of Building Parent and Family engagement policies.
2. During Family Involvement Nights, inform parents of the school's participation in the development of the parent and family engagement policy and their right to be involved.
3. During Family Involvement Nights, inform parents of the Title I Committee and encourage the participation in the meetings.
4. Monitor the school to ensure that the school performs the following:
  - a. Development of the parent and family engagement policy
  - b. Distribution of the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy to all families
  - c. Encourages parent participation in the Title I Committee
  - d. Workshops, meetings, and conferences are offered throughout the day
  - e. Provides informational newsletters, brochures and guides to parents about the program
  - f. Provides materials for training to the parents to support their child's academic achievement
  - g. Encourage parent feedback and input in the Committee or use of surveys

**Objective 3: Conducts, with meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools, including identifying:**

- **barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, 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 needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers;**
  - **and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. (ESSA, Section 1116)**
1. To the extent feasible and appropriate, MRCS will coordinate and integrate Title I parent involvement activities with other parent involvement activities.
  2. Document parent participation through the use of sign in sheets for workshops, meetings, presentations, and conferences. Provide and document workshop schedules and brochures, meeting notes, meeting presentations, and any other means as appropriate throughout the schools year.
  3. Involve parents through an annual survey, and additional surveys when needed to improve school effectiveness.
  4. Provide all parents/guardians with a description and explanation of the curriculum.

5. Provide all parents with information about the assessments used, including, but not limited to AIMSweb and PSSA (summative) to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

**Objective 4: Use the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence based strategies for more effective parent and family involvement, and revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. (ESSA, Section 1116)**

1. The content and effectiveness of this policy will be evaluated annually with regard to improving the academic quality of MRCS in receiving Title I funds.
2. Share annual findings with the school and make recommendations for the school and parent family engagement policy.
3. As related to parent and family engagement; provide recommendations for school improvement

**Objective 5: Involve parents and family members in the activities of the school, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members to adequately represent the needs to the population; revising and reviewing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. (ESSA, Section 1116)**

1. Develop and distribute an annual parent activity evaluation; hard copy or electronically
2. Share results of the annual evaluation to the parents, staff, and community
  - a. Electronic Posting