



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

*Thomas Mifflin*

## **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*School Year 2021-2022*

*Revision Date:*

05-18-2021

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Thomas Mifflin 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) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

### **Thomas Mifflin agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:**

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) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA 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 local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and 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) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

## **DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

### **Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Thomas Mifflin will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I 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.

All families are invited to attend the Spring Title I meeting to review and update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Parent Compact. This year, we held a meeting on May 5 & 12, 2021 to review our school budget, school level plan, Parent and Community Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. Parents are encouraged to complete the parent survey to provide feedback to school leadership on parental engagement activities.

### **Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Thomas Mifflin 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 program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

School leadership will conduct the Annual Title I meeting during our Annual Back to School Night in the Fall. Back to School Night will be held within 45 days of the onset of the 21-22 school year. The agenda will include:

Title I requirements  
Understanding the Common Core Curriculum  
Understanding academic standards  
Standardized Assessments  
School-wide Improvement Plan  
How to monitor your child(ren)'s academic progress  
Successful team building/participation with instructional staff

### **Section C: COMMUNICATIONS**

Thomas Mifflin will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children with (1) Timely information about the Title I programs, (2) Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, (3) transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement and may use Title I funds and (4) 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 Calls & Emails via School Messenger

Monthly notes/calendar

School Letters

Personal communication with parents (Face to Face)

Convenient meetings hours offered

Utilize all School District of Philadelphia resources to communicate (verbal & written) with a parent in his/her native tongue

### **Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Thomas Mifflin 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 our Spring Title I meeting, we invite parents to review and update the School-Parent Compact. On May 12, 2021, we held our Spring Title I meeting to review the school budget, school level plan, Parent and Community Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. All families were invited to attend. Information was posted on the school's website. The 2021-22 School Parent Compact will be jointly developed at the Spring Title I parent meeting.

### **Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If applicable, Thomas Mifflin will take the following actions to 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 parent and family engagement is spent by:

School leadership will seek parental input on the school budget, especially the parent engagement funds, at our Winter Title I meeting. This year's meeting was held February 10, 2021.  
Parents had the opportunity to give input into the spending of the 1% Title I parent set-aside. Parents were encouraged to provide additional feedback related to parental engagement priorities and purchases on the parent engagement survey which is offered to the parents throughout the school year.

### **Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Thomas Mifflin will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, 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:

Kindergarten Building Bridges transition plan will be coordinating with district and local early childhood organizations.  
Kindergarten Open Houses (2 Held in the Spring)  
Friends of Mifflin (SAC)  
East Falls Village (Read 2 Me program)

### **Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

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

- Providing parents 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 achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's academic standards
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

School leadership will conduct the Annual Title I meeting during Back to School Night. Back to School Night will be held within 45 days of the onset of the school year. The agenda will include: effective communication; student, parents, educators, other school staff, administration roles and responsibilities; current school year (2021-2022) budget; PA common core standards and curriculum.

Parent Teacher Conferences are a vital opportunity for parents to discuss questions or concerns about their child(ren)'s academic progress

Parents are encouraged to attend activities, at school, that will assist in academic growth and development at home

### **Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Thomas Mifflin will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, 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, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

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A professional development will be provided to the staff, which will focus on active listening to parents; effective communication with parents; and how parents can productively assist their child(ren) at home, with academic endeavors. Results from the parent survey will be discussed with staff during a PLC and/ or a district PD day in the Fall or Winter as an opportunity to help inform these conversations.

Thomas Mifflin will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

Join and actively participate in the Home & School Association and/or Friends of Mifflin (SAC)  
Participate in Math/Literacy Day and/or night and any other academic based family learning opportunities  
Learn about volunteering, within the school community, when feasible  
Importance and benefit of the Parent Portal

**Principal's Signature**

*Leslie H. Mason*

**Date Signed**

**May 27, 2021**