

***The John Hancock Demonstration Schools***  
**Parent and Family Engagement Policy**  
***School Year 2020-2021***  
***Revision Date: 4/30/20***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, John Hancock Demonstration Schools receive 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).

- The John Hancock Demonstration Schools agree 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**

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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.

**Parents will be asked to give suggestions at the Spring Title I input meeting for reviewing and amending a school-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent compact. This meeting was held on April 30, 2020. Input will also come from the Title I Parent Survey. Suggestions will be included in the updated plan.**

**Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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.

**A Back to School Night will be scheduled in September 2020. During this event, a special Title I parent meeting will be held. Parents will hear about the purposes of Title I and Hancock's Title I budget. We will also discuss how Title I supports student achievement through the purchase of teaching staff and supplemental materials, requirements of Title I, parent rights to know, the state academic content standards and assessments, ways to monitor student progress and work with educators as equal partners and information about the curriculum the school will provide and ways in which parents can help students be academically successful.**

**Section C: COMMUNICATIONS**

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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.

- 1. The Hancock Schools uses translated copies of documents provided by the Family and Community Engagement Office. All communications from the school use parent friendly language, specifically those documents relating to standardized testing and other assessments.**
- 2. The school maintains regular contact with families to discuss student progress. Teachers regularly communicate through written communication, electronic communication, calls home or via email to discuss student progress.**
- 3. The Hancock Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be distributed to students in their agenda book as well as to parents at Back to School Night (September 2020)**

- 4. Information about parent meetings and workshops will be sent out in advance in readable formats. These meetings will be held at various times of the day to accommodate parent schedules. During these meetings our school will collect the Parent Engagement Survey to solicit parent feedback that will be shared with our Staff.**

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

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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.

**Parents will be asked to give suggestions at the Spring Title I input meeting for reviewing and amending a school-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact. Due to the COVID-19 school closures, input will be gained via Google forms and will be conveyed to parents via social media and communication applications. This year the input meeting was held with parents on April 30, 2020. Suggestions were included in the updated plan.**

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

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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:

**Parents are invited to several meetings throughout the school year, including the Winter Title I Input meeting to review the school budget, Breakfast/Dessert with the Principal, and monthly SAC meetings where the budget is discussed and reviewed with opportunities for parent input and feedback. Parents are given opportunities at these meetings to give input into the use of Title I funds, particularly the 1% parent set aside funds. Parent Engagement Surveys are provided throughout the school year. This past year, the parents met with the principal on December 5, 2019 to review and discuss the Title I funds and 1% parent involvement set aside.**

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

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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:

**The Hancock School will work with various independent organizations, businesses, universities, and Federal, State, and local public entities in order to provide and support parent engagement, student support and health services, school support and programming and extra curricular supports and services.**

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

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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:

1. 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
2. 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
3. Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - a. The challenging State's academic standards
  - b. The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - c. The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - d. How to monitor their child's progress
  - e. How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

**During Back to School Night in September 2020, we will address the State Academic Standards with our parents. In addition, Hancock Schools holds workshops for parents throughout the year to ensure that parents understand the curriculum, state standards, and academic assessments and how parents can work with educators and monitor student progress. Individual student progress is also discussed at Report Card Conferences and provided by quarterly Interim reports. Parents also have access to student progress through the School District of Philadelphia's Parent Portal. Additionally, we hold parent workshops on strategies for parents to support their children and have Family Educational Events.**

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

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools 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:

**Staff will receive training at several professional development meetings held throughout the school year. The responses from Title I Parent Surveys will be shared with the staff to inform some of the professional development sessions. Presentations will also provide the staff with strategies to enhance and facilitate parental engagement at the school, effective parent conferences and communication with families.**

The John Hancock Demonstration Schools will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

**Hancock Schools hold workshops for parents such as Parent Portal, Reading and Math strategies and have Family Educational Events.**

---

Principal Signature

---

Date