



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

## *Middle Years Alternative* **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*School Year 2022-2023*

*Revision Date:*

*05/12/2022*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Middle Years Alternative 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).

### **Middle Years Alternative 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**

Middle Years Alternative 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.

*In the Winter and Spring MYA hosts a Title I meeting to discuss the school's budget, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School Compact and Schoolwide Plan. During these meetings, we invite parents to attend and give feedback on the current policies to be updated and distributed for the upcoming school year.  
Parents were invited to provide feedback for this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact on May 12, 2022.*

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

Middle Years Alternativewill 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.

*The Annual Title I meeting will be held TBD in September 2022. During this meeting the school will discuss 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  
Curriculum  
In addition, attending parents will review a copy of the schoolwide plan and receive a copy of the finalized Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School-Parent Compact.*

### **Section C: COMMUNICATIONS**

Middle Years Alternative 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.

*Parents/guardians of MYA will be offered the option to attend meetings, workshops and conferences either in the AM or in the PM during after work hours.  
MYA offers all communications and correspondence in various languages through the Office of Translations.  
Parents of participating children will be offered communication and correspondence in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, in a language the parents can understand.*

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

Middle Years Alternative 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.

*n the Winter and Spring MYA hosts Title I meetings where parents discuss the school's budget, Parent and Family Engagement Policy  
Parents were invited to provide feedback for this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact on Ma*

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

If applicable, Middle Years Alternative 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:

*In May 2022, the school held a meeting to discuss the budget for the 22-23 School Year. At this time, parents were given the opportunity to decide how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement will be spent. Parents will be invited to discuss the school budget, including the parent engagement set-aside funds, at the Winter Title I meeting.*

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

Middle Years Alternative 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 school will provide a Parent Resource Center area within the main office where parents can access various resources to support their children academically, socially, emotionally, etc.  
The school will provide parents with specific information on outside agencies through the SAP process, as needed.*

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

Middle Years Alternative 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

*Parents and Guardians will be given the opportunity to attend a Literacy Workshop in the fall and they will also be trained during Back to School Night on how to use the Parent Portal and access Class Dojo.  
During the Annual Title I meeting in September the school will review 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  
Curriculum*

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

Middle Years Alternative 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 at MYA will receive Professional Development in October 2020 about working with Parents as Equal Partners. Past parent surveys will inform the topics discussed at this Professional Development.  
Staff will work with parents to fill out family surveys during Report Card Conferences. Report card conferences from 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters. The results of the surveys will be reviewed with staff.*

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

*Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for the training  
To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings and workshops at a variety of times to accommodate various parent schedules.*

Principal's Signature

**Shakas Dupre-C**

*S. Dupre* 8/22/22

Date Signed

05/12/2022