

# **Reagan Academy**

## **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

### **2019-2020**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Reagan Academy receives Title I, Part A funds and 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 the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the Local Educational Agency (LEA) expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement, and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

#### **Reagan Academy agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined:**

- The district-school will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in the Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- The district-school will work to ensure that the required parent and family engagement policy meets the Title I, Part A requirements, and includes as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The district-school will incorporate this district-school parent, and family engagement policy into its LEA plan.
- The LEA will 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 targeted assistance program plan.
- The LEA will update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distributes it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the Utah State Department of Education.
- The LEA will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:*
    - *Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning,*

- *Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school,*
- *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, and*
- *Other activities*

### **Joint Development**

Reagan Academy will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan, and in the development and review of support and improvement plans:

Reagan Academy's Board of Trustees is made up of elected and appointed members that are required to be parent's of current Reagan students. The plans for Reagan Academy are developed, evaluated, monitored, reported to and approved by these parent representatives. Monthly Board meetings are held and announced each meeting. Reagan has a unique parent involvement aspect as they are represented as a governing body at the LEA level.

Reagan also provides meaningful ways for parents to be involved in this aspect by holding monthly Parent Volunteer Organization meetings on a monthly basis. This meeting is followed by what we call Donuts with Director's, an open forum for parents to ask questions and get updates on items.

### **Annual Title I Meeting**

Reagan Academy 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.

Reagan Academy will hold an Annual Parent Meeting each August in conjunction with the new school year's Open House/Meet the Teacher event. The meeting will be held in the evening time after 6:00pm. Information will presented by the Director of the school and the meeting is held under the direction of the Reagan Academy Board of Trustees.

### **Technical Assistance**

Reagan Academy will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

### **Annual Evaluation**

Reagan Academy will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities (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 evaluation will also include identifying 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. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

Reagan Academy has in place a set of end statements or goals. Reports are made on a monthly basis how the school is targeting and making progress on these end statements. The Board of Trustees is responsible for conducting these monitoring reports. The Director of the school will make a report based on data collected on each item. Members of the Board who are parents and represent the parent body will determine progress being made and set forward action items as needed.

### **Coordination of Services**

Reagan Academy will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs such as Head Start or other public preschool programs, parent resource centers, and other programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Reagan Academy provides a *JumpStart* program late in the summer each year for kindergarten students. It allows for an early start for students that have participated in community pre-school settings to integrate into the school.

### **Building Capacity of Parents**

Reagan Academy will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State 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, and
- How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child.

Reagan will provide two opportunities each year in a formal Parent Teacher Conference to discuss goals for each student and what the student, parent and teacher will do to achieve academic growth. In addition, parents always have the invitation to make appointments with teachers at any time to discuss these goals; we call these Student Success meetings. We offer online resources in Math and ELA that parents can help students at home. We also provide a computer lab with a supervised teacher 3 nights a week for students and parents to access materials and online curriculum.

### **Building Capacity of District-School Staff**

Reagan Academy will, with the assistance of its administration and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff 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 schools by:

The motto of the school is "Partnership in Education". One of the most important aspects related to that is ongoing communication with parents. All teachers will be expected to keep current their own teacher web page. A link to your current teacher webpage will be provided to parents

on our school web site. Things that are appropriate to put up on that site include, but are not limited to:

- Class curriculum schedule
- Homework assignments, with electronic copies of handouts
- Upcoming activities or events
- Parent tips to help their children at home

Weekly updating of this website will replace the printed weekly newsletter for most parents. You may e-mail an electronic newsletter in addition to updating the web page as well as send a printed version to parents who do not have access to the internet or e-mail.

Gradebook links in ASPIRE will be updated on a weekly basis. This ensures that parents, teacher and student are up to date on the current student's progress at times that are acceptable to make changes in work behavior.

It is the policy of Reagan Academy to respond to parent emails that may be sent within a 24 hour period or during the next business day if on a weekend or holiday.