

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
NEBINGER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

2016-2017

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Each school in its School-wide Parental Involvement Policy must establish the school's expectations for parental involvement. *[Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]*

The Nebinger Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its School District of Philadelphia plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the School District of Philadelphia's plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, 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 State Department of Education.
- The school district will 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 parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I 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—

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;

(C) that 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) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

[NOTE: The School- wide Parental Involvement Policy must include a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components. [Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.] Regardless of the format the school chooses to use, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy statutory requirements.]

1. The Nebinger ES will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

Our Back to School Meeting was held on September 21st, 2016. The policies were reviewed and discussed with the parents and the plans for the upcoming school year were formulated. In addition there are monthly community partner meetings.

2. The Nebinger ES will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

The school currently has a School Advisory Council, which serves to involves parents in the school improvement and/ action planning process. These meetings are held once a month.

3. The School District of Philadelphia will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- In collaboration with the Grants Compliance Monitor, School-Community Liaisons, Philadelphia Home and School Council (PHSC), Title I Parent Advisory Committee, The Philadelphia Right to Know Educational Task Force, PARENT POWER, and other parent groups, provide workshops to schools on parent engagement.
 - Provide professional development by parents/caregivers for new and existing principals and other administrators on how to develop promising partnerships with parents/caregivers.
 - Train new and existing staff with parental engagement duties (e.g., School Improvement Support Liaisons, School-Community Liaisons, School Community Coordinators, and Bilingual Counselor Assistants) to assist school sites in implementing parental engagement.
 - Make available the staff of the Office of Educational Equity, Office of Specialized Instructional Support, and Office of Family and Community Engagement staff for technical assistance.
 - The Grants Compliance/Title I Office will provide technical assistance to schools and parent organizations, such as the Title I Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), Home and School Associations, The Philadelphia Right to Education Task Force, PARENT POWER, and other organized parent groups.
 - Provide coordination of professional development efforts through the Office of Leadership and Development.
 - Provide workshops to parents on supporting student achievement and parent engagement.
4. The Nebinger ES will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Bright Futures by:
- Nebinger has 2 Bright Futures classrooms. The parents from these programs will play an integral part in all activities at the school and will participate in a Fall orientation and other school-wide events and fundraisers. Parent support groups and workshops will be held monthly.
5. The Nebinger ES will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A programs. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement 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 school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.
- A survey was sent out to all parents in the Spring of 2016. As a result of the survey, the school devised a plan to address barriers and increase parental involvement. Parents provided feedback during our first meeting in September to evaluate the effectiveness of last year's policy and parental involvement. To address their concerns, meetings are held monthly with parents, teachers, students and community members to give every person a voice in the operation of the school. Meetings are held on the Second Friday of every month.
6. The Nebinger ES will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The Nebinger ES will, with the assistance of the School District, provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --
- the State’s academic content standards,
 - the State’s student academic achievement 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.

On September 21st, Principal Brown explained and reviewed the requirements of TI-Part A. On October 14th, the principal will provide a workshop on homework help aligned to content materials. Every second Friday of every month, workshops will be provided on academic achievement standards, assessments, ParentNet for parents to monitor their child’s progress. Parental workshops for reading and math will be held each report period during report card conferences. In addition, Back to school night meetings and special musical events will be used to disseminate information to parents and the community. Parenting tips and other school information are sent home every Tuesday. Interim reports are sent each report period.

- B. The Nebinger ES will, with the assistance of the School District, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

Nebinger Staff will share resources at each report card conference. A Science Fair competition will be held for grades 3-8 in December and grades Pre-K-2 in January. Kindergarten Transition meet up nights will be held in correlation with Meet and Greet events. In addition, Communication folders with parenting tips direct parents to academic achievement resources that are listed on the Pennsylvania department of Education website. Parents will also be given access to individual student data via School net passwords and other online resources.

- C. The Nebinger ES will, with the assistance of the School District, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

During the first week of every month, during grade group meetings, teachers will discuss strategies on “customer service.” In addition, during half-day professional development days, instructional and non-instructional staff are provided training in the many strategies that can be used in working with parents/guardians.

- D. The Nebinger ES will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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:

Providing access to parent materials in the school lobby, during monthly parent meetings and musical performances once every report card period. Parents will have the opportunity to attend monthly parent workshops to discover different techniques

to help their child. Parents have the opportunity to volunteer to help out at the school and become room parents.

- E. The Nebinger ES will take the following actions to ensure that 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:

In order to make student achievement data parent friendly and easily understandable, in September of each school year we offer a workshop to all parents. We also send home a PSSA report from the previous year to each parent in September. This report card is again reviewed during the initial parent- teacher report card conference. We also send all school materials in native languages in our Communication Folder. School advisory and stakeholder meetings are held once each report card period. Interim reports sent home midway through each marking period also detail a student's individual progress and identifies their achievement data. We also use data walls, I.E.P. meetings, RTII meetings, parent link and parent seminars to help parents understand achievement data and it's importance.

PART III. SCHOOL WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

School's Parental Involvement Policy includes additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- Arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.]

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PART IV. ADOPTION

This Nebinger Elementary School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents as evidenced by _____. (This blank needs to be filled in with the name of a parent who attended and is on the sign-in sheet for the parent input meeting for developing the parent policies)

The school will distribute this policy to all parents on or before October 31, 2016.

(Signature of Principal)

(Date)