

Newark Board of Education
Title I School Parent and Family
Engagement Policy
2024-2025 School Year

School:



Ridge Street

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | **PK-8**

Home of the Tigers

"Through it all, students will be at the center. All of our work and every decision we make will be for the educational benefit of our students."

(Superintendent Roger León: The Next Decade: 2020-30 Strategic Plan)

Newark Board of Education Title I School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2024-2025 School Year
Ridge Street School

"When schools and community organizations work together to support learning, everyone benefits..."
(Strategy 6: The Next Decade: 2020-30 Strategic Plan)

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS OF NBOE

ALL Newark Board of Education Schools that operate a Title I schoolwide program agree to implement the following statutory requirements that are highlighted in further detail later in this document:

- 1) Create a Title I School Parent and Family Engagement Policy, consistent with requirements of section 1118¹ of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and agreed upon by parents of that particular school;
- 2) Ensure that all information is relayed to parents in format(s) and language(s) that make it accessible and understandable;
- 3) Function with the understanding that parental involvement means "the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that:
 - 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; and in
 - d) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA"²

¹ <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg2.html#sec1118>

² <https://www.mingoschools.com/domain/1628>

Ridge Street School
Title I School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2024-2025

Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written involvement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements of SEC. 1118. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT (c) through (f) as listed below and outlined in the Title I law:

(C.) Policy Involvement

Each school operating a Title I schoolwide program will —

1. Host an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children will be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, to explain the requirements under Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved;

*The 2024-2025 Annual Title I Parent Meeting will take place on:
October 10, 2024 @6 PM*

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement as appropriate;

To accommodate the needs of parents, Ridge Street School will provide meetings at the following flexible times: 9 AM and 6 PM, and Title I funds will be used to provide support for accompanying children.

The Annual Title I Parent Meeting presentation will also be made available via the school's website <https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/rdg/>.

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy;

Our Fall and Spring Forums, all parents will be informed of the schools Vision/ Mission

- *All parents are invited to meetings*
- *The SST will publish communications*
- *Monthly School Calendars*
- *Utilization of Communication platforms, such as Social Media and School Website*

4. Provide parents of participating children —
 - a. Timely information about programs under this part;
 - b. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels students are expected to meet regarding the challenging State academic standards; and

- c. if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- *A variety of communication platforms will be utilized in order to inform parents of parent events in which all programs will be addressed*
- *Parent Liaison will inform parents at our monthly parent meetings*
- *Messages and reminders via social media platforms; school website; blackboard connect; monthly calendar; letters home*

5. If the Annual School Plan 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 Newark Board of Education.

(D.) Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy, each school will jointly develop with parents for all children served under Title I a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, using research-based practices.

- *Meet with the school's parent organization, students, and teachers to evaluate school-parent compact to align and outline all stakeholders' responsibilities for improved student academic achievement.*

(E.) Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part —

1. Will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or Newark Board of Education, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of these standards and assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
 - Parent Teacher Conference Night twice per year on **December 5, 2024 & February 13, 2025.**
 - Distribution of Progress Reports four times per year on **October 2, 2024; January 7, 2025; March 11, 2025 and May 21, 2025.**
 - Distribution of Report Cards four times per year on **December 5, 2024; February 13, 2025; May 1, 2025 and June 24, 2025.**
 - Provide Parent workshops throughout the year as a means of empowering parents and students such as PowerSchool Parent Portal, and workshops to support academic skills at home

2. Will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement;

- *Host events such as, but not limited to Literacy Nights for families to provide understanding, improve student achievement and foster engagement*

- *Host events such as, but not limited to Math Curriculum Nights for families to provide understanding, improve student achievement and foster engagement*

- *Host events such as, but not limited to Pizza and Paint for families to provide and improve students achievement and foster engagement*

- *Host bi- monthly parent meetings and presentations led by qualified and committed professionals in order to support the home-school connection while ensuring alignment to the district's 10-point Literacy Plan*

- *Host Powerschool Parent Portal workshops and Parent Presentations throughout the school year to help parents monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.*

- *Host parent workshops, such as Building Academic Skills at Home*

3. Will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other school leaders and 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;

- *Prioritize bi-monthly professional development sessions to introduce best practices for engaging families to staff and personnel and engage families in the content areas.*

- *Host bi- monthly parent meetings and presentations led by qualified and committed professionals in order to support the home-school connection while ensuring alignment to the district's 10-point Literacy Plan*

- *Utilize the Parent Survey created by the Office of Policy, Planning, Evaluation and Testing. Create survey in multiple languages for families to fill out to become aware of best forms of communication*

4. Will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, the 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;

- *Leverage resources offered via the Office of Early Childhood in order to integrate opportunities for supports via parental involvement*

○ Host bi- monthly parent meetings and presentations led by qualified and committed professionals in order to support the home-school connection while ensuring alignment to the district's 10-point Literacy Plan

5. Will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; using all District supported methods of communication.

● *Review home language surveys to become familiar with the languages represented at the school and disseminate correspondence in the home language when applicable.*

● *Continually ensure the appropriate integration and utilization of resources to support communication with families who speak various languages, such as LanguageLine*

6. May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;

a. Host bi- monthly parent meetings and presentations led by qualified and committed professionals while ensuring alignment to the district's 10-point Literacy Plan

b. Share information related to partnerships with Colleges and Universities

7. May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;

8. May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

a. Host bi- monthly parent meetings and presentations led by qualified and committed professionals while ensuring alignment to the district's 10-point Literacy Plan

9. May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

a. Ensure the dissemination of information regarding engagement opportunities, such as the Parent Academy

10. May arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation;

a. Ensure appropriate accessibility to teachers and staff in addition to district-wide parent-teacher conferences

b. Provide opportunities for families to remotely attend meetings via approved on-line platforms

11. May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement;

a. Ensure dissemination of district and school surveys to families

b. Host regular opportunities to engage families in ways that support the district's 10 Point Literacy Plan

12. May establish a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in programs supported under this section;

a. Ensure parental representation via the attendance of parent leaders at parent leadership council meetings with the Superintendent (Superintendent Council of Parents)

13. May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent and family engagement activities; and share information related to partnerships with Colleges, Universities, and Community Based Organizations

14. Will provide such other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under this section as parents may request.

(F.) Accessibility

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of

- parents with children with limited English proficiency,
- parents with children with disabilities,
- and parents of migratory children,

including providing information and school reports required in a format and language such parents can understand.

• *Have all flyers, agendas, and announcements translated in both English & Spanish*

• *When necessary, employ resources such as LanguageLine to assist with translation in various languages*

• *When necessary, employ resources to support communication with those who may be visually or auditorily impaired*

This School Parental Engagement Policy template has been completed jointly and agreed upon with the parents of **Ridge Street School**.

This policy was adopted by **Ridge Street School** on **9-20-2024** and will be in effect for the period of school year 2024-2025. The school will distribute this policy to all parents on or before **September 30, 2024**.

David DeOliveira

(Signature of School Principal)

09/20/2024 (Date)