

Foster Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2024-25



Foster Middle School School Parent and Family Engagement Policy ESSA Section 1116 2024-2025

1. Foster Middle School shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of ESSA Section 1116 subsections (c) through (f). Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Section 1116 (b)(1) & (e)(5)

Foster Middle School offers a holistic high rigor education, rich with inquiry and global explorations, to produce caring citizens prepared for daily excellence in the college or career of their choice. Parent and Family Engagement (PFE) aligns with Foster's vision and mission. A strong partnership between the school and home is essential if a quality educational program is to be provided for all students. Foster Middle School is dedicated to the philosophy that parent involvement is integral to the success of each student. For this reason, parents are actively recruited as our partners for success. Parents will be invited to participate in the annual revision of the campus School-Family Engagement Policy, Campus Improvement Plan, and Comprehensive Needs Assessment. The PFE policy is reviewed and revised annually by the school members, parents, and students. Parents will be responsible for:

- Keeping open communication with teachers and your students regarding academic progress.
- Finding real-world ways to support your student's learning.
- Helping students become organized at home and providing an area and time to complete homework.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of your child in a positive manner
- Send the student to school on time and dressed appropriately on a regular basis
- Attend school functions and conference

The PFE will be distributed during the beginning of the school year in varying modalities e.g. in person, print, digitally, etc. in both English and Spanish.

2. Foster Middle School shall convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved; Section 1116 (c)(1)
 - Two annual meetings will be held to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the rights of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The first meeting will be held on August 25th, 2022 (Meet the Teacher Day). The meeting will be held on site as well as via Google Meet & Zoom which will be recorded. A subsequent Annual meeting will be held the following week on August 30, 2022 (7:45-8:15) via Google Meets & Zoom. The second Title 1 meeting will be held late spring 2022. Parents will be notified and invited via email, Remind/Talking Points, social media, robocall, and the Foster website. The school communicates with parents in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language that parents can understand (English/Spanish). The school will use the following modes to communicate with parents:
 - School Flyers
 - Positive notes home to parents of student success
 - Parent/Teacher Conference Forms
 - Longview ISD Webpage
 - Foster Middle School Webpage
 - Student Handbook
 - Translators Provided
 - Automated Mass Calling System through District Schedule
 - Parent Access through Skyward
 - Parent Remind App/Talking Points
 - Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter)
3. Foster Middle School shall offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement; Section 1116 (c)(2)

Collaborative, informative, and engagement meetings will be held on site, virtually, and live throughout the year. The meetings will be offered in the morning and late evening to maximize parent attendance. Foster will also provide childcare for evening meetings at parent request.
4. Foster Middle School shall involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint

development of the school wide program plan under section 1114(b) (Campus Improvement Plan), except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children; Section 1116 (c)(3)

FMS parents are invited and encouraged to participate in the development of the PFE program. Parents have the opportunity to engage in campus activities in various ways. In addition, parents can choose to serve on the FMS Parent Advisory Board whose primary role is to participate in campus-based decision making processes based on the Campus Needs Assessment and goals represented in the FMS Campus Improvement Plan. The CIP committee, Parent Advisory Board, and other campus stakeholders will review and revise the CIP quarterly to address campus needs.

5. Foster Middle School shall 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 of 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;
- Section 1116 (c)(4)

Parents will be informed about PFE programs and activities in various modalities e.g. email, social Media, Remind/Talking Points, virtually, in person, etc. Some activities include:

- o Communities in School Coordinator - work with and communicates with parents
- o Flyers/Notices Home (Outlining school curriculum, forms of academic success)
- o Student Parent Handbook (Outlines End of Year Grade Level Expectations)
- o Progress Reports and Report Cards
- o Meet the Teacher Night - First Visit with student's teachers in August and Review Title I Budget/Programs
- o IB Community Project Showcase - May
- o Music Programs on campus
- o Sharing on school report card (open forum/campus website)
- o 8th grade Awards
- o STAAR End of Year Student reports
- o TELPAS End of Year Student reports
- o Title I, Part A Annual Meeting Held in Conjunction with another Parent Event

The Foster curriculum and instruction framework as well as assessment calendar will be available to parents via the Foster Middle School Web page.

6. If the school wide program plan (Campus Improvement Plan, CIP) under section 1114(b) 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.

Section 1116 (c)(5)

Parents will review the Campus Improvement plan during annual and quarterly PFE meetings. Suggestions and/or concerns regarding the CIP will be given to the campus principal who will Present them to the LEA office To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Foster Middle School shall: Section 1116 (e)

- (i) provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;

Section 1116 (e)(1)

- FMS Parent Academy
- PFE Quarterly Meetings
- Remind/Talking Points
- Parent Portal on the FMS website

- (ii) 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 (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; Section 1116 (e)(2)

- FMS Parent Academy
- PFE Quarterly Meetings
- Remind/Talking Points
- Parent Portal on the FMS website
- Translation/Interpreter as needed

- (iii) 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; Section 1116 (e)(3)

FMS staff will participate in the following:

- Talking Points Communication Platform
- Beginning of the Year training on Cultural Sensitivity
- Ongoing professional development focused on Parent Family Engagement

Parents are encouraged to provide school feedback on all its Title I, Part A school-wide activities. Feedback is welcome at all parent involvement activities and on climate surveys.

- (iv) to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement 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; Section 1116 (e)(4)

The school will mandate that teachers hold at least 2 parent conferences annually where the teachers will review grade level content standards, student assessments, and progress data with parents. The teachers will provide parents with support on how to work with their child to improve their student's academic achievement. Parents will also have opportunities for regular meetings relating to their children's education, when requested.

Academic nights for Reading, and Math will be developed with the purpose of providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, and on climate survey.

(v) provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. Section 1116 (e)(14)

Other PFE programs and services offered at FMS include:

- Career and Technical Education (CTE) course offerings and explanations
- High School Equivalency programs
- ACT/TSI preparation