

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Freedom Intermediate School
School Year 2025 - 2026
Reviewed August 13, 2025

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Freedom Intermediate School 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).

Freedom Intermediate School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve families, 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 school improvement 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 families and the school, distribute it to the families 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 families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families 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 families understand.
- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family 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 families in regular, two-way,

and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- (C) families 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
- (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Freedom Intermediate School will take the following actions to involve families 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 families, 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.

- ☐ Parents are active participants in developing and monitoring our Family Engagement Policy. Parent representatives will serve on the school's Principal's Advisory Council.
- ☐ Freedom Intermediate School's PTO, Principal's Advisory Council, and the School Counselors work together to build the schools' and parents' capacity for stronger parental involvement.
- ☐ The PTO, Principal's Advisory Council, and School Counselors will review the effectiveness of family engagement activities at least annually.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Freedom Intermediate School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all families of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the families' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- ❑ Freedom Intermediate School will share the School Family Compact with all families digitally.
- ❑ The Title 1 informative slide-show will be presented and explained at our beginning of year Parent Orientation Night.

COMMUNICATIONS

Freedom Intermediate School will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand:

- ❑ The Freedom Intermediate School Family Engagement Policy and School - Parent Compact will be provided digitally to all families.
- ❑ Announcements about and invitations to Family Engagement events will be communicated to families in English or Spanish according to home language information.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Freedom Intermediate School will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- ❑ Freedom Intermediate School developed the School - Parent Compact jointly with members of the Principal's Advisory Council.
- ❑ The School - Parent Compact will be reviewed annually for revisions and edits.
- ❑ All parents have the opportunity to provide feedback on and suggestions for the School - Parent Compact.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Freedom Intermediate School will take the following actions to involve the families 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:

- ❑ Although Freedom Intermediate School is not typically required to set aside 1% of Title I, Part A funds reserved for Parent and Family Engagement, the school chooses to set aside a set amount each year for this purpose.
- ❑ Freedom Intermediate School will provide an annual meeting in the fall to describe the school's participation in the Title I, Part A program. During this meeting, funds available for family engagement will be reviewed and ideas will be shared and solicited for use of the funds.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Freedom Intermediate School 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 families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- ❑ Freedom Intermediate School will coordinate with other community organizations to provide resources, supports, and additional opportunities to enhance the experience of Family Engagement events.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Freedom Intermediate School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

- Meet and Greet Night
- Parent Orientation
- Weekly Newsletters from Academic Teams
- Weekly ParentSquare posts from the Principal

- Bulldog Bash
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Family Engagement Activities
- Spirit Nights

Freedom Intermediate School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:

- ☐ Information regarding content standards, assessments, and student achievement will be sent home by the individual schools. Links to all information will be given to parents and will be posted on the district website.
- ☐ Assistance with understanding curriculum standards and academic requirements will be provided to parents at Freedom Intermediate during parent orientation, parent teacher conferences, and family nights. The family nights may focus on literacy, math, coding, STEM, science, and SEL.
- ☐ Freedom Intermediate will encourage all parents to attend parent-teacher conferences to discuss a child's achievement progress.
- ☐ Information on programs, meetings, events, workshops, and other activities at Freedom Intermediate will be sent to parents in a format and extent practicable and in a language the parents can understand. ParentSquare and social media will be used to provide verbal communication to all families. ParentSquare will be sent in English and Spanish.
- ☐ Parents will be encouraged to be involved in the activities at their child's school. Weekly newsletters from each academic team will be sent home electronically to provide updates and details of upcoming activities at Freedom Intermediate.
- ☐ Freedom Intermediate will provide opportunities for the participation of parents and students with limited English proficiency, parents and students with disabilities, and parents and students of migratory and homeless students. Information and school reports will be provided in a format and language that parents understand.