



Elmhurst Elementary Title I Parent Family Engagement Policy 2026-2027

Section 1118 of the ESSA Waiver formally replacing ESEA requires the involvement of parents of participating children in the planning and implementation of District and School Title I projects. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

This meeting is to inform parent about their rights under the law and to provide them with information that will allow them to be fully active in their child's education.

To involve parents in the policy process, Elmhurst will:

- Encourage all parents to attend **Elmhurst Curriculum Night**, held at the beginning of the school year, to learn about Elmhurst's participation in the Title I program, the requirements of Title I, and parents' rights and opportunities to be involved.
- Hold Title I Parent and Family Engagement meetings at various times and on different days to accommodate family schedules. When feasible, transportation, childcare, or home visits may be provided to support parent participation.
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and continuous improvement of Elmhurst's Title I programs, including the development, review, and revision of the School Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Schoolwide Program Plan.
- Provide parents with timely information about the Title I program, including an explanation of the curriculum used at Elmhurst, the academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the expected student achievement and proficiency standards.
- Provide parents, upon request, with opportunities for regular meetings to offer suggestions, participate in decisions related to their children's education, and receive timely responses to their recommendations.
- If the Schoolwide Program Plan is not satisfactory to parents, Elmhurst will submit parent comments regarding the plan to the Pitt County Schools Federal Programs Office, as required.

To promote shared responsibility for high student academic achievement, Elmhurst will:

- Develop, in partnership with parents, a **School-Parent Compact** that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improving student academic achievement and supporting student success.
- Support parents in creating a positive and effective learning environment at home by providing information and resources on the importance of regular attendance, homework completion, reading at home, positive use of extracurricular time, limiting excessive screen time, and ways to support learning and volunteer at school.
- Foster meaningful communication between teachers and parents through parent-teacher conferences, progress reports, regular updates on student progress, and by providing reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate in school activities, and observe classroom instruction when appropriate.
- Hold Parent and Family Engagement meetings throughout the school year to provide families with opportunities to actively participate in their children's education, learn about school programs and resources, and collaborate with school staff to support student achievement.

To build capacity for parent and family engagement, Elmhurst will:

- Foster meaningful partnerships among Elmhurst, families, and the community to support parent and family engagement and improve student academic achievement.
- Assist parents in understanding North Carolina's academic content standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, how to monitor their child's academic progress, and how to work collaboratively with educators to improve student achievement.
- Provide parents with materials, resources, and training, including literacy and technology support, to help them work with their children at home and strengthen student learning.
- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school staff on the value of parent contributions and on effective strategies for communicating with families, partnering with parents as equal participants in their children's education, coordinating parent and family engagement programs, and strengthening connections among the school, families, and the community.
- Coordinate and integrate Title I Parent and Family Engagement programs and activities with other school, district, and community programs whenever appropriate, and provide resources that encourage families to become active participants in their children's education.
- Ensure that information related to school programs, parent and family engagement activities, meetings, and other events is provided in an understandable and, whenever practicable, accessible format and in a language that parents can understand.

- Provide reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities in response to parent requests, as resources allow.
- Regularly seek parent feedback regarding preferred meeting times, communication methods, and engagement opportunities to increase family participation and remove barriers to involvement.

To ensure accessibility for all parents and families, Elmhurst will:

- Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and family members with limited English proficiency, migratory children, and families from diverse linguistic backgrounds by offering translation and interpretation services whenever practicable.
- Ensure that parents and family members with disabilities have equal opportunities to participate by providing accessible facilities, reasonable accommodations, and appropriate support services.
- Provide information related to Pitt County Schools, Elmhurst Elementary School, Title I programs, school and district plans, meeting notices, report cards, and other accountability information in an understandable and, to the extent practicable, accessible format and in a language that parents can understand.

Elmhurst Title I Program Description

Elmhurst Elementary School operates a **schoolwide Title I program**, which allows all students to benefit from Title I services and supports regardless of their family's income level.

The Schoolwide Title I Plan is developed collaboratively by a team that includes school administrators, teachers, support staff, and parents. The plan is based on the results of the school's annual Comprehensive Needs Assessment, which is conducted prior to the beginning of each school year to identify areas of need and guide continuous school improvement.

Elmhurst's Title I program is implemented in accordance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and applicable federal and state guidance. The school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, and Schoolwide Title I Plan are shared annually with all families and are available on the Elmhurst Elementary School website. Printed copies are also available upon request.