Wasson Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan and Procedures

2025-2026

Wasson Elementary is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if Wasson Elementary staff and families work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor Wasson Elementary staff members can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Support for their children and for the school is critical to children's success at every step along the way.

We recognize that parents are their children's first and most influential teachers. Ongoing support from both home and school plays a critical role in helping students achieve academic success at every stage of their education.

At Wasson Elementary, we understand that some students may need additional support to meet Pennsylvania's high academic standards. Through the Title I program, we are committed to providing that extra help while actively involving parents in every aspect of the program.

Our goal is to foster a strong school-home partnership that empowers all students to reach their full potential.

PART I-SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY/PLAN **REQUIRED** COMPONENTS

A. Wasson Elementary will jointly develop and annually revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in collaboration with Title I staff and parents. This policy will be distributed to the families of all participating students and made available to the broader community.
Parent input will be gathered through:

- The Spring Parent Advisory Council Meeting
- The Annual Fall Title I Parent Meeting
- Parent Needs Assessments
- Sending documents home with all Title I students

B. Annual Title I Meeting to inform all parents of participating children 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.

1. Will be held at different times during the day and in different locations
2. Inform parents of the school's Title I program as well as district assessments and technology
3. Explain requirements of the Title I program
4. Explain parent's rights of involvement

C. Flexible Meeting Options
To accommodate families' schedules and needs, **Wasson Elementary** Title staff will:

- Offer meetings at different times of day, including early mornings and evenings

- Partner with the PTA to offer additional workshop opportunities
- Provide child care to support attendance
- Utilize available Title I funds for transportation or home visits, as needed

D. Ongoing Parent Involvement in School Planning
Parents will be engaged in an organized and timely manner in planning, reviewing, and improving the:

1. Schoolwide Program (Section 1114)
2. School Plan (Section 1112)
3. School Review and Improvement Process (Section 1116)
4. Parents will have the opportunity to plan, review and improve the plan through the various opportunities listed below.

E. Parents of participating children will be provided with:

1. Timely information about Title I programs
2. A description and explanation of the school curriculum
3. Information on academic assessments and proficiency expectations
4. Opportunities for parents to make suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child(ren)

Engagement opportunities and communication will occur during the following:

i. Annual Fall Title I meeting
ii. Conferences with teachers
iii. Needs assessments
iv. Annual Spring Parent Advisory Council meetings
v. Workshops

F. If at any point the Schoolwide Program Plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parent comments to the district when the plan is made available.

Note: This clause is not applicable at this time.

PART II-**REQUIRED** SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

A. As a component of the school-level Parent and Family Engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part, a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

1) During the Parent Advisory Council meeting, the Parent compact will be reviewed and updated, as needed.

2) During annual parent/teacher conferences in elementary schools, the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.

3) At the beginning of the school year, a copy of the compact will be included in the district elementary handbook as well as sent home with every Title I student.

B. Parents will be provided with the following:

1) Regular parent communication and conferences as needed
2) Progress reports of student achievement on a consistent basis
3) Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities.
4) Workshops and trainings for parents/ guardians

C. Title I staff will ensure regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

1) Forms and releases are created and sent from one central location and dispersed to all schools in the same format
2) All families of new students complete a Home Language Survey to determine need or translation
    a. If translation is needed, communications would be translated into their home language through the Transact System

BUILDING **CAPACITY** FOR PARENTS AND STAFF – REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGAGEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a strong partnership among schools, families, and the community that leads to improved student academic achievement, the DuBois Area School District and Wasson Elementary will:

1. Build Parent Understanding of Standards and Student Progress

- Assist parents in understanding Pennsylvania's challenging academic standards, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators to support academic success.
- Share this information during the Annual Title I Meeting as well as School-based workshops tailored to families' needs

2. Provide Materials and Training to Support Learning at Home

- Offer literacy training, strategies for using technology at home, and educational information (including awareness about the harms of copyright piracy).
- Develop workshops based on feedback from the Parent Advisory Council, the Annual Title I Meeting, and other Title I workshops to address topics parents find most helpful.

3. Provide Professional Development for Educators

- Offer professional development for teachers, specialists, and school staff on the value of families as educational partners as well as ways to improve communication and collaboration with parents

- Include **SPAC (State Parent Advisory Council)** skit videos in faculty meetings as part of professional learning.

4. Coordinate with Other Programs to Support Engagement

- Align and integrate Title I parent engagement efforts with other Federal, State, and local programs such as Public preschool programs, Parent resource centers, and Community education initiatives
- Share Title I resources, workshops, and opportunities with other programs.
- Plan **joint workshops** when possible to streamline support and enhance participation.

5. Communicate Effectively with All Families

- Ensure that all communication about school programs, meetings, and activities are Clear and accessible and provided, to the extent practicable, in the language spoken at home
- Utilize the **Transact System** to translate documents and communications for families who speak languages other than English.

The following are allowable activities:

1) May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
   a. Use of the SPAC Skit training videos will occur
   b. Parents will be included on the Act 48 committee to guide professional development opportunities including but not limited to workshops, conferences, trainings, discussion groups

2) May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training

3) May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local Parent and Family Engagement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
   a. Title I parents at Wasson Elementary School can provide input and guidance on the Title I spending for parent involvement activities, workshops, trainings, resources, and assorted materials and services including but not limited to:

1. Child care at meetings
2. Refreshments
3. Transportation
4. Home visit expenses such as travel, books, workbooks, bookbags and containers, and other assorted school related supplies.
5. Workshop needs such as refreshments, child care, transportation, speaker fees, workshop site fees, organizational needs, presentation specific needs, and other parent resources or practice materials. Examples of these resources include, but are not limited to the following:
   I. **Literacy & Reading Support**
      - Flash cards and educational games
      - Grade-level appropriate workbooks and activity packets

- Letter recognition tools such as alphabet cards, manipulatives, electronic games, books, and batteries
- Sound practice materials such as picture cards, phonics games, dictionaries, etc.
- Word practice tools such as flashcards, word rings, index cards, electronic games
- Reading fluency resources such as EZC Readers, leveled books, Reader's Theater scripts, apps for voice recording, bookmarks, batteries

II. **Math Support**
- Math digital games
- Flashcards and hands-on manipulatives
- Workbooks, counters, and other practice tools

III. **Resource Lending Library Enhancements -** Parents can help guide the enhancement of the **Wasson Elementary Resource Lending Library** by recommending:
- Hands-on learning tools
- Flash cards and games
- Basic school supplies (pencils, crayons, stickers, rulers, markers, etc.)
- Creative tools (clay, whiteboards, chalk, glue)
- Technology-based resources (e.g., **ABCmouse.com**, LeapFrog)

4) May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
   a. Parents and guardians working on the Parent Advisory Council will be afforded the opportunity to attend the SPAC summer conference

5) 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. Meetings/ workshops will be held at different times during the day
   b. Will be coordinated with PTA to provide multiple events
      i. Eureka Math supports, Wonders Supports, Scholastic Storyworks Supports, Read Across America, Literacy Under the Lights, Skyward Trainings and various activities that support learning.

6) May adopt and implement model approaches to improving Parent and Family Engagement.

7) May establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to Parent and Family Engagement in programs supported under this section.
   a. Parent Advisory Councils are set up in each building and information is shared between buildings

8) May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in Parent and Family Engagement activities.
   a. Work collaboratively with building level PTA to provide workshops and activities for family engagement for workshops such as Math Night, Literacy Events, Title I Open House, Author Visit, and/or Community Math Night (Grocery store – hands-on activities by grade level).

PART III-ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

1) Forms and releases are created and sent from one central location and dispersed to all schools in the same format
2) All families of new students complete a Home Language Survey to determine need for translation
   a. If translation is needed, communications would be translated into their home language through the Transact System

PART IV-ADOPTION –

This **Wasson Elementary School Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Procedures** has been developed and revised jointly with, and agreed upon by, parents of children participating in the Title I program, as documented in meeting minutes.

The policy and procedures were reviewed and updated by Wasson Elementary staff and parents/guardians on **May 6, 2025**, and will remain in effect for the **2025–2026 school year**.

The school will distribute this Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Procedures to all parents of participating Title I students and will make it available to the community **on or before November 30, 2025**.

Joan A. Klark – DASD Director of Federal Programs 05-06-2025

(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative) (Date)