

# Sleepy Eye Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Plan

ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2021-2022

ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this school. We want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to support high achievement of our children. We can't do this job alone. Parents and families play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

## Part I. District Expectations

Sleepy Eye Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements:

1. The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
2. Consistent with section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESSA.
3. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, parents of migratory children, those who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, 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 parents understand.
4. The school district will incorporate this district wide parent and family engagement policy into its district plan developed under section 1112 of the ESSA.
5. If the district plan for Title I, Part A found in the State Educational Record View and Submission (SERVS), developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the Minnesota Department of Education.
6. The school district with a Title I, Part A allocation of over \$500,000, will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

7. The school district will be governed by the following definition of the term "parent" includes a legal guardian or other person standing in place of a parent (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).
8. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
  - a. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - b. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - c. that 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;
  - d. that other activities are carried out, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

## **Part II. Description of How the District and School Will Implement Required Components**

1. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will engage parents and families who have Title I students in developing/revising the district and school policy. A parent advisory committee will be formed to allow for parent input in the plan. These parents will also serve as representative for the parent population, being their voice for change. A total of five meetings will be held throughout the year where parental engagement activities will be discussed and parent suggestions will be taken into consideration.
2. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will take the following actions to engage the parents and families in jointly developing the district Title I plan (section 1112) which is in the SERVS application and the development and review of the Title I Targeted Assistance Plan. Collaboration with parents and title staff will take place prior to the start of the school when the Title I Committee Meeting is held. The Title I plan will be shared with parents and modifications and revisions will be taken into consideration per the suggestions of the parent committee. Necessary changes will be made to the plan following the meeting. Changes suggested after the initial Title submission will be noted for the following year.
3. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will coordinate technical assistance and other support that is necessary to build the capacity of staff in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. This could include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders and philanthropic organizations or individuals with this experience in effectively engaging families in education. At Sleepy Eye Elementary, curricular experts in Literacy along with parent volunteers will be asked to assist in the development of family engagement events. In addition, Trinity Lutheran Church provides multiple services to enhance the educational experience including enlisting community readers, providing weekend food bags to those in need, and supplying winter clothing and daily snacks to those students as well. Taher, the food service provider, also supplies milk and juice for the student population to make it equitable for all. This year, all of these events and activities may be modified to ensure the safety of our staff, students, and parents due to COVID-19.
4. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will coordinate and integrate with federal, state and local programs, including public preschool programs, to implement effective parent and family engagement strategies that improve student achievement and school performance. To achieve this, the local community

education director with the help of local child care providers will host weekly Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) sessions for preschool parents from August to April. These sessions will be two-fold with the intent to educate parents about various topics including parenting strategies as well as parent and child engagement activities.

5. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will take the following actions to conduct, with the engagement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy (programs/activities) in improving the academic achievement of Title I students and the schools.

Reviewing and evaluating the parent and family engagement activities/programs:

- a. Identify barriers and the needs of parents and family members that keep them from participating in their child's education, especially the economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited English proficiency or any racial or ethnic minority.
- b. Identify the needs of the Title I parents and family members to assist the learning of their children and the teachers and school staff.
- c. Identify strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

Prior to the end of the school year, parents of students participating in the Title I program or those exited earlier in the year will complete an online survey regarding the overall effectiveness of the Title I program.

6. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will use the findings of the evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement as necessary and to revise the parent and family engagement policy as necessary. Data collected from the survey will be evaluated by the parent committee to make any necessary modifications to current programming.
7. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will involve parents in activities at Sleepy Eye Elementary. A parent advisory board is established that represents the population of Title I parents and family members, that develops, evaluates, and reviews or revises the parent and family engagement policy. This parent advisory committee is established at Sleepy Eye Elementary to allow for parent input in the plan. These parents will also serve as representative for the parent population, being their voice for change. A total of five meetings will be held throughout the year where parental engagement activities will be discussed and parent suggestions will be taken into consideration.
8. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, when the parents of participating children are available to attend. The Title I annual meeting will inform parents about the Title I program, explain the requirements of parent and family engagement and the rights and responsibilities of the parents to be involved. In addition to the two committee meetings, one held at the beginning of the year and one held at the end of the year, three Title I informational meetings will be held on conference nights. These dates include 8/18/20, 10/13/20, and 2/11/21. Multiple meeting times will be offered to accommodate parent schedules.
9. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will offer flexible meeting times during morning, evening or weekends and may provide transportation, child care or home visits. If parents are unable to make the scheduled

meeting, alternative options will be offered in our monthly newsletter. Parents will be able to schedule a time to conference with Title staff about the program. This could include face-to-face meetings offered at alternative times or conferences via telephone or video conferencing. If child care is needed, accommodations will be made.

10. ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will provide assistance to parents of Title I students:
  - a. Timely information about programs offered to engage in their child's education.
  - b. An explanation of the curriculum, state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, and the achievement levels of the state academic standards.
  - c. If they request, opportunities for regular meetings to hear their suggestions and participate in decisions related to their child's education.

Information will be provided to parents in a variety of ways including through monthly newsletters, informational meetings, parent-teacher conferences, and direct mailings. The mode of communication will depend on the type of information that is being shared. If the need for additional meetings is requested, dates will be added to the schedule.

### **Part III. Description of the Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will jointly develop with Title I parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement to meet the state academic standards. The compact should:

1. Describe the curriculum and instruction that helps their students meet the state standards, identify where their child is performing and discuss ways the parent can support their child's education at home and at school.
2. Talk about the importance of the teachers and parents communicating on an ongoing basis at a minimum:
  - a. Conduct a parent-teacher conference in elementary schools, at least annually, during which time the compact is discussed as it relates to the individual child.
  - b. Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress, including an explanation of the Title I Report Card.
  - c. Provide information on how parents can contact staff and staff can best contact parents (Class Dojo), opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.
  - d. Make sure that two-way meaningful communication between family members and school staff is addressed and when at all possible, is in a language the parents and family members can understand.

#### Part IV. Accessibility

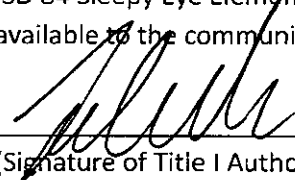
ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will meet the requirements of parent and family engagement of Title I, to the extent practicable. We will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand. In an effort to reach all parents regardless of language, our school liaison officer, Nadia Crooker, will provide translating service for those in need. This includes translation of documents and verbal translations during conferences and meetings. In addition, transportation opportunities will be arranged for families through the liaison and local county family facilitator, Kristen Forstner.

#### Part V. Adoption

The ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes and sign-in sheets.

On 8/3/21 the ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be in effect for the period of the school year.

ISD 84 Sleepy Eye Elementary will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children and make it available to the community.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)

8/3/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)