



Minnewaska Area Schools District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

Minnewaska Area Schools is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in our district. Our goal is to establish partnerships with parents and the community. We recognize all parties are better when school and home are aligned to support the achievement and growth of our children. Parents and families are extremely important as their child's first teachers. Their support for their children and the school is vital to the success of our children.

Part I: District and School Required Implementation

1. Minnewaska Area Schools will engage parents and families who have Title I students in developing/revising the district and school policy.
 - Parent feedback will be collected via survey.
2. Minnewaska Area Schools 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 involved.
 - a. An explanation of Title I services will be provided on our school's website in addition to this Title I Engagement Policy.
 - b. MAES will continue to implement the Laker P.A.L.S program, with the goal of engaging all parents in the daily operations of the school and gathering their feedback on what we can do better.
3. Minnewaska Area Schools will involve parents in planning and review of the school improvement plan when applicable. Parents of students

receiving Title I services will provide feedback via survey. This feedback will be used to revise and improve our Title I practices each year.

4. Minnewaska Area Schools will provide assistance to the parents of Title Students:

- a. Timely information about programs offered to enrich their child's education. This information will be shared at conferences and virtually using our school website.
- b. An explanation of curriculum, state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, and the achievement levels of the state academic standards will be provided at parent/teacher conferences..
- c. If they request, opportunities for regular meetings to hear their suggestions and participate in decisions related to their child's education.
- d. MAES will host an annual "Family Engagement Event" for students and families receiving Title I support. This will focus on helpful strategies for supporting their child's learning at home. A family night in February to kick off I love to Read Month will be held. During this event, every child will receive a free book and parent tips for reading with your child will be shared.
- e. Our teachers are very committed to close communication with families to partner in their child's education. We collaborate with PTA to offer family nights, weekly and monthly newsletters sharing classroom content as well as activities parents can do to support their children.

Part II: Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Minnewaska Area Schools will develop a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the 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 help their student 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 parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, during which time the compact is discussed as it relates to the individual child.
- b. Provide reports on their child's progress to families at parent/teacher conferences or as needed via phone/email.
- c. Provide information on how parents can contact staff and staff can best contact parents.
- d. Make sure that two-way communication between family members and school staff is addressed and when at all possible, is in a language the parents and family can understand.

Part III. Accessibility

Minnewaska Area Schools will meet the requirements of parent and family engagement of Title I. 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 for parents to understand. We offer parent evenings throughout the year where translators and interpreters can participate to fully support all families. In addition, we work to translate documents for parents at events as well as what is sent home.