



Girard School District

1203 Lake Street, Girard, Pennsylvania 16417

Title I Local Education Agency Parent and Family Engagement Policy SY 2026-2027

All Local Education Agencies (LEA) receiving Title I funds are required under Section 1116 of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the LEA.

ESSA states that the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy must be jointly developed with parents and family members, incorporated into the LEA plan (Consolidated Application), and distributed to parents of participating children in a format and language that parents can understand. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.

The policy must be:

- ☐ developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents and family members of Title I children;
- ☐ written in an understandable format and provided in a language parents can understand;
- ☐ distributed to all parents and family members of Title I children;
- ☐ made available to the local community; and
- ☐ updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents, family members and the school.

Girard School District ***involves parents and family members in the joint development of the Title I Plan*** (Title I Application) (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)).

- GSD has an established **Parent Advisory Council** of ten parent volunteers who meet (6) times per year to reflect on academic achievement, school climate, attendance, extracurricular activities, etc.
 - Strengths, challenges, and possible solutions are discussed as a team
- In **June**, the GSD Title I Planning Committee conducts an **annual meeting to review**:
 - Title IA programming; allocations
 - Title II and Title IV funding; allocations
 - Option of transferability to Title IA
 - Collaborative practices with parent and family engagement



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- Reserve a minimum of 1% for parent and family engagement
 - Review and revisions of the LEA Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy
 - Review and revisions of the School Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy
 - School Compacts review and revisions
 - Discuss Parent and Family Engagement events and opportunities
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- ***Title I Schoolwide Plan*** and the goals set the previous year. During this meeting, achievement data, behavioral data, and perceptual data is reviewed with the committee and focus area recommendations are determined.
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- Parental input is requested ***through surveys*** and during the ***annual Title I Parent Family Information Night*** held in September. As parents visit different stations, they are able to record any feedback they would like to share regarding the following topics:
 - Parent and Family Engagement Policy (LEA Level & School Level)
 - Parent and Family Engagement Opportunities
 - School Compact Revisions
 - Grade level curriculum & assessments
 - Special Education items
 - English Language Arts and Mathematics interventions and resources
 - Educational websites and technology integration
 - Community School initiatives and resources
 - STEM lab programming and Title IV funding
 - Ways to help your child at home
 - Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports Programming
 - Toolbox Resources
 - In ***August***, the GSD Title I Planning Committee conducts a meeting to review any feedback and ***finalize the Title I Schoolwide Plan*** to be submitted by September 1st.



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Girard School District ***involves parents and family members in the process of school review and improvement*** (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(A)).

- The **Parent Advisory Council** meets (6) times per year to reflect on academic achievement, school climate, attendance, extracurricular activities, etc.
- In **December, February, April, and June**, GSD's Title I Planning Committee meets to review student achievement data, behavioral data, and perceptual data from surveys to **reflect on and monitor the quarterly Title I Schoolwide Plan measurable goals and action plan**. This information is completed in the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal.
- Parental input is requested through **annual surveys and during the annual Title I Parent Family Information Night**.

Girard School District ***provides technical assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities*** to improve student academic achievement and school performance (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(B)).

- **Parent and Family Engagement Policies** (LEA Level and School Level) are developed collaboratively with school staff and parents. These policies are sent home with students during the first few weeks of school, posted on the district website, and highlighted in weekly building level newsletters.
- During **planning meetings and at the annual Title I Parent and Family Engagement Information Night**, parents are informed of their rights to be involved and their right to participate on the planning committees or Parent Advisory Council.
- The **district website** has a Title I menu with numerous academic resources and links to educational websites, meeting agendas, and training materials.
- A **weekly newsletter** is sent at the school level to highlight and promote school events.
- Encourage parents to volunteer by determining and **scheduling volunteer opportunities**.

Girard School District ***will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies*** with other federal, State, and local laws and programs (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(C)).



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- Collaborate with the **United Way Community School** to bring parent and family programming and trainings to the schools.
- Collaborate with the building level **Parent Teacher Organization** to coordinate parent and family engagement events.
- Discuss **Title IIA and Title IVA funding** with the Title I Planning Committee and Parent Advisory Council to obtain feedback and input on planning.
- Conduct a **kindergarten registration program** to transition local preschool students and families to our elementary school.

Girard School District **conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy** in improving the academic quality of all schools, including identifying

- barriers to greater participation by parents and family members, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background;
 - the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii).
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- At the **annual Title I Parent and Family Engagement Information Night**, the Parent and Family Engagement Policies (LEA & School Level) will be presented and reviewed with parents for feedback and input.
 - The **annual parent and family engagement survey** will be reviewed for feedback regarding academics, barriers, and needs.
 - Any pertinent and relevant topics discussed during the **Parent Advisory Council meetings** will also be considered as it pertains to improving the academic quality of our schools.

Girard School District **will use the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family involvement**, and revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(E)).



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- Review the recommendations from past meetings and surveys and make agreed upon revisions to the Parent and Family Engagement Policies (LEA & School Level) as determined by the Title I Planning Committee and Parent Advisory Council.
- Support schools in providing professional development regarding parent and family engagement strategies.
- Support programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
- Distribute information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.

Girard School District ***involves parents and family members in the activities of the school, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members*** to adequately represent the needs to the population; revising; and reviewing the Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(a)(2)(F)).

- GSD has an established ***Parent Advisory Council*** of ten parent volunteers who meet (6) times per year to reflect on academic achievement, school climate, attendance, extracurricular activities, etc.).
- ***Parents and family members are surveyed*** each year and have the opportunity to indicate their interest in ***participating on various committees***.
- ***Parent Teacher Organization*** membership and attendance at monthly meetings is encouraged.
- Parents are encouraged to obtain their ***volunteer clearances*** and assist at different school events, classroom celebrations, etc.

Use of Funds

If the LEA reserves \$500,000 or more and are required ***to set aside 1%, funds*** shall be used to ***carry out activities and strategies consistent with the LEA's parent and family engagement policy***, including not less than one of the following:

- Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for LEA and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(i)).



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- **Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school. (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(ii)).**
 - Annual Title I Parent and Family Information Night
 - Family Math, Family Literacy, and Family Science Nights
 - Title I Summer Safety Event
 - Bingo for Books
 - Community Discovery Night
- Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iii)).
- Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate with, community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(iv)).
- Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the LEA determines are appropriate and consistent with the LEA's Parent and Family Engagement Policy (ESSA, Section 1116(3)(D)(v)).

Adoption: The Girard School District Title I LEA Level 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 the collaborative planning meeting between the Title I Planning Committee and the Parent Advisory Council on August 12, 2026.

This policy was adopted by the Girard School District on August 24, 2026, and will be reviewed yearly. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of students participating in Title I programs on or before September 30, 2026.

Girard School District School Board President

Angel Ghastin
Federal Programs Coordinator

Kevin E. Benson
Parent Advisory Council Representative

Date

8-12-26

Date

8-12-26

Date