



Illini Central CUSD #189

District-Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Illini Central CUSD #189 agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will implement programs, activities, and procedures to involve parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1116 of the ESEA, 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 ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parent and family engagement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- 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 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 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will include any parent comments with the plan when submitting it to the State Department of Education.
- The school district 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 parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of “parent and family engagement,” and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
 - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
 - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
 - 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; and
 - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

Illini Central CUSD #189 Wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Illini Central CUSD #189 will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parent and family engagement policy and in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs:

- Establishing a District-level committee with parent/guardian liaisons from each building, as well as representatives from other relevant federal, State, and local programs.
- Establishing meaningful, ongoing two-way communication between the District, staff, and parents/guardians.
- Developing a District newsletter to communicate to parents/guardians about the plan and seek their input and participation.
- Training personnel on how to collaborate effectively with families with diverse backgrounds that may impede parent/guardian participation, e.g., illiteracy or language difficulty.

Illini Central CUSD #189 will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112 of the ESEA, and support and improvement plans under section 1111(d)(1)-(2) of the ESEA:

- Community Engagement Committee
- Parent involvement in committees
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- CPAC/C3 Mentoring
- Providing ongoing District-level workshops to assist buildings in planning and implementing improvement strategies.
- Establishing training programs for building liaisons to bring the communication and facilitation skills to the buildings they represent.
- Providing information to parents/guardians about the various assessment tools and instruments that will be developed to monitor progress.
- Seeking input from parents/guardians in developing workshops.
- Providing ongoing communication about the District-wide committee through District newsletters or other written or electronically communicated means.
- Engaging the building parent organizations to actively seek out and involve parents/guardians through regular communication updates and information sessions.
- Utilizing parent organizations to assist in identifying effective communication strategies based on their members' needs.
- Providing a master calendar of meetings to discuss pertinent topics.
- Allowing meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents/guardians and family members in education.

Illini Central CUSD #189 will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- In-person registration
- Skyward communication
- Email Communication
- District Website
- District Facebook
- Rooms App
- Google Forms
- Newsletters
- Family Nights
- FAFSA Completion Night
- Honor Society Nights
- School-wide Awards assemblies

Illini Central CUSD #189 will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parent and family engagement strategies of the following other relevant Federal, State, and local programs: Preschool for All, Individuals with Disabilities Act, and McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

- PreK Parent Nights
- Open House
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Social Worker Support
- Kindergarten Preview Night
- Sixth Grade Orientation
- Freshman Orientation
- FAFSA Night
- 5 Essentials Survey
- Parent Meetings, 504/IEP Meetings
- Involving District and program representatives to assist in identifying specific population needs.
- Sharing data from other programs to assist in developing new initiatives to improve academic achievement and school improvement.

Illini Central CUSD #189 will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent and family engagement activities (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. Illini Central CUSD #189 will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy and activities to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its parent and family engagement policies.

- Student Success Team Meetings (Staff)
- Community Engagement Committee (Parents and Admin)

Illini Central CUSD #189 will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- Providing communication and calendar information to parents/guardians of upcoming meetings, discussions, or events, and encouraging their participation.
- Providing the Building Principals and parent organizations with coordination of events.
- Establishing a parent advisory committee comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents/guardians or family members to adequately represent the needs of the District's population for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing Board policy 6:170, Title I Programs.

Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents/guardians and to support a partnership among the schools involved, Illini Central CUSD #189 shall:

- Provide assistance to parents/guardians in understanding the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Provide materials and training, such as literacy and technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), to help parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
- With the assistance of parents/guardians, educate teachers, instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff in: a) the value and utility of contributions of parents/guardians;

- and b) how to effectively communicate and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between parents/guardians and the school.
- To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent/guardian involvement programs and activities with other federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent/guardian resource centers, that encourage and support parents/guardians in more fully participating in their children's education.
 - Ensure that information is sent to the parents/guardians of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents/guardians can understand.
 - Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents/guardians may request.

In addition, Illini Central CUSD #189 may:

- Involve parents/guardians in the development of training for teachers, Building Principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.
- Provide necessary literacy training from funds provided by the relevant provision in Title I if the District has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/guardians to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents/guardians to encourage and enhance the involvement of other parents/guardians.
- Arrange school meetings at various times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers and other educators to maximize parental involvement and participation.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.
- Establish a District-wide Parent/Guardian Advisement Committee to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in supported programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent/guardian involvement activities.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this compact, Illini Central CUSD #189, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents/guardians and family members (including those with limited English proficiency, with disabilities, and with migratory children), including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents/guardians understand.