

Anoka-Hennepin School District
Title I Family Engagement Plan
2022-2023

The Board of Education of the Anoka-Hennepin School District believes that education is a shared responsibility of the student, family, school, and larger Anoka-Hennepin community. Further, the Board recognizes that academic achievement and success of our students depend on the strength of the partnerships developed among students, families, schools and the community from birth through graduation and beyond.

Anoka-Hennepin is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with families and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. 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

Anoka-Hennepin School District agrees to make sure there is effective involvement of families and to support a partnership with families and the community, each Title I school and the district will:

- Provide families of Title I students assistance in understanding the State academic standards, the state and local academic assessments, the parent and family engagement rights of Title I, and work with their child's teachers to improve the academic success of their child.
- Provide materials and training to help families work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement.
- Educate teachers, principals, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents/guardians, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between families and schools.
- When possible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs.
- Ensure, when possible and practical, that information related to the school and family programs, meetings, and other activities is provided in a format and language the families can understand.

Anoka-Hennepin School District agrees to implement the following requirements [Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)]:

- Put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents/family members in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents/families of participating children.
- Work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level Family Engagement Plan (1116b of ESSA) meets the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a Family-School Compact (1116d of ESSA).
- Incorporate this district-wide Family Engagement Plan into its district plan (1112 of ESSA)
- In carrying out the Title I parent engagement requirements, to the extent practical, the district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, when reasonable, in a language parents can understand.
- If the Anoka-Hennepin plan for Title I 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.
- Anoka-Hennepin will involve the parents/families of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- Anoka-Hennepin will be governed by the following definition of the term "parent" which includes 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).

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- Family engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - that families play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
 - that families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education in school
 - that families 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
 - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA

Part II. District Family Engagement Plan Required Components

Anoka-Hennepin will take the following actions to involve parents/family members in the joint development/revision of its district engagement plan.

District Contacts, unless otherwise noted below:

Beth Engman beth.engman@ahschools.us; 763-506-1136

Dr. Annette Ziegler annette.ziegler@ahschools.us

1. How will parents/families be included in development/revision of the Title I District Family Engagement Plan?

Activity:

The District Family Engagement Plan is shared and feedback is requested through each principal’s newsletter and at the individual Title I buildings’ Annual Title I meetings. Feedback is used to help drive the planning and program initiatives for the current year as well as the following year.

2. How will the district involve parents/family members in the joint development of the district Title I plan?

Activity:

An overview of the Title I Plan is shared at all Fall and Spring Title I PAC school meetings. The current school year goals and program initiatives are discussed and feedback is encouraged. Parent input is used when drafting the Title I Plan for the following year. **Dates:** Fall and Spring Title I PAC Meetings

Anoka-Hennepin will involve parents in the joint development of the district plan, review and improvement [i.e. district plan, section 1112, schoolwide section 1114, and/or school improvement section 1116].

3. Anoka-Hennepin will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, through the following activities specifically described below.

Activity:

The Title I principals and Title I Building Leads meet multiple times a year for training on Title I family engagement requirements. District created resources are shared, including a powerpoint jointly created by Curriculum, SpEd, Title I, and EL to introduce the Wonders curriculum materials, including connected services and interventions. Schools regularly collaborate about effective events and practices. In addition, district reminders and updates are sent out via email to principals and leads.

Dates: Fall, Winter, Spring

Activity:

The Director and Teaching and Learning Specialist for State and Federal Programs host meetings with Title I Principals and Building Leads to review, revise and discuss the planning, implementation and evaluation of their Title I Plans, including using student data to plan and implement effective parent and family activities. School compliance meetings occur three times a year in which parent and family engagement requirements and planning are discussed.

Dates: Title I Compliance Meetings: Mid Tri 1, Tri 2, and Tri 3

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4. Anoka-Hennepin will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to families of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- the state's academic content standards
- the state's student academic achievement standards
- the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Title I
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

Activities:

- The District Policy Handbook (Parent Handbook) is made available to all families in Anoka-Hennepin annually and is also available on the district website. Topics include State and District assessments, academic content and achievement standards, Parents Right to Know, volunteer opportunities, Parent Involvement Resource Center, and other district information. This handbook is available in a variety of languages, and can be translated through the website.
- Curricu-Links, McGraw-Hill Wonders, and Bridges in Mathematics are online resources for families to help support learning at home.
- Each Title I school hosts an annual Title I meeting in the Fall where parents/guardians learn specifically what Title I is, how Title I funds are generated and used in their building, as well as ways in which they can be involved in the process and help support their child in meeting the state standards. The District and School Family Engagement Plans and the Title I Family-School compact are made available. Parents/family members are given the opportunity to learn about volunteer opportunities such as being a member of the school Parent Advisory Committee.
- The Title I Family-School Compact is shared and discussed at Parent-Teacher conferences. Through this meaningful, individualized conversation, the child's academic assessments are shared and academic goals are determined. The role of the school, family, and child is discussed to ensure that the child can reach his/her fullest potential to meet the rigorous academic state standards.
- Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled in October and February, and families are given the option of virtual conferences.
- The Focus Newsletter is sent two times a year to all families residing in the Anoka-Hennepin School District.

5. Anoka-Hennepin will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help families work with their children to improve academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to promote family engagement.

Activity:

Schools strategically plan their family engagement events to meet the needs of their school. School improvement strategy goals, Title I program focus, non-proficient subgroups, assessment scores, as well as family feedback are all taken into consideration when planning for these events. Families are encouraged to help in the planning and evaluation of these events.

Dates:

Three family engagement events are hosted throughout the year at each Title I school. One of the three events is the Fall Title I Annual Meeting, which occurs in September or October.

Contact: Title I Building Lead at each Title I school

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6. Anoka-Hennepin will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents/family members, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to implement and coordinate programs and build ties between families and schools.

Activities:

- The Title I Building Leads will meet 3 times a year to discuss topics related to Title I. Topics will include Title I guidelines and compliance understanding, ways to help build the capacity of family engagement, and effective use of data driven instruction, recording and communication as well as reflection and cross district collaboration opportunities to review Title I program goals and progress.
- The Director and Teaching and Learning Specialist for State and Federal Programs will host meetings with Title I Principals to review, revise and discuss the planning, implementation and evaluation of their Title I Plans. Family Engagement Plans, barriers, data-driven events, collaborative efforts, as well as examples of successful events will be discussed.

Dates: Title I Principal/Title I Building Lead Meetings: Fall, Winter, Spring

7. Anoka-Hennepin will coordinate and integrate parental engagement programs and activities with federal, state, and local programs, to implement effective parent and family engagement strategies that improve student achievement and school performance.

Activities:

- Volunteer Services provides opportunities for parents/family members and the community to contribute their time and talent to boost student learning in schools and/or with district-wide initiatives. Examples include the Kindergarten-Skillbuilders program and finding volunteers to support Title I funded family engagement events
- The Community Education hosts leadership workshops, provides networking opportunities and resources for PTOs, booster clubs and other student-supporting nonprofits.
- Parent Legislative Team - People who want to advocate for Anoka-Hennepin students with state government receive email updates on relevant bills and legislation that impact education.
- Parent Resource Center (lending library) - Community members can select from over 1,000 books, DVDs and other materials to help them understand their families, children and schools. Topics include parenting strategies, educational partnerships, and promoting student success and development.
- Social media communication regarding parenting, volunteering, leadership and local family events and resources.

Contact: Elizabeth Burgard, Community Education Parent Involvement Coordinator

Elizabeth.Burgard@ahschools.us; 763.506.1282

8. Anoka-Hennepin will involve parents and family members of the children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of the Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

Activity:

Each Spring, schools draft their Family Engagement Plan for the following school year based on projected Title I allocations. Title I Schoolwide improvement strategies, non-proficient subgroups, assessment scores, as well as the input of parents, teachers and community members are all taken into consideration when planning family engagement events. Buildings reflect upon data and family feedback throughout the year to ensure that future, family engagement events are planned with purpose and reflect the academic need(s) of their learners and families.

Dates: Approved by school PACs in the Spring. Schools submit to the district for final approval in June.

Contact: Lead secretary for the Director of State and Federal Programs (763-506-1123)

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9. Anoka-Hennepin will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of families, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this family engagement plan in improving the academic achievement of Title I students and schools.

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

- 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, those with 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

Activity:

The District Family Engagement Plan will be made available at each Title I school at the Title I Annual Meeting and through principal newsletters (Schoolwide only), and on district and school websites. The Title I Building Lead and/or principal invites parents/family members to provide suggestions, insight and feedback on the plan and shares any feedback/suggestions to the State and Federal Programs Department.

Dates: Fall and Spring meetings

Activity:

Schools take into consideration school improvement strategy goals, Title I program focus, non-proficient subgroups, assessment scores, as well as parent/family feedback and identified barriers from district and school PAC and surveys/evaluations when strategically planning for events for the following year. Parents/family members review and approve the Family Engagement Plan and their feedback is used to design evidence-based strategies for more effective engagement.

Dates: Fall and Spring School PAC meetings; Spring request for feedback through Title I principal newsletters

Part III. Accessibility

Anoka-Hennepin 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, when reasonable, in a language parents can understand.

Part IV. Adoption

The Anoka-Hennepin Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with, parents/family members of children participating in Title I programs.

Anoka-Hennepin will make this plan available to all families of participating Title I children and it will be posted on the website.

On September 6, 2022 the Anoka-Hennepin Family Engagement Plan will be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year.