

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

LIZANA ELEMENTARY 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR Last Revised: August 2022

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Lizana Elementary receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental and family engagement activities.

Lizana Elementary understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and 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

Lizana Elementary agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

A. ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Lizana Elementary will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Lizana Elementary will hold its Annual Title Parent Meeting on Tuesday September 20, 2022 at 9:00 am. A recording of the meeting will be posted for your viewing. We will discuss what it means to be a Title I school and how funds are spent. We will go over and discuss school improvement plans as well as the parental involvement plan and how you as a parent can join our committee and be involved. Also, parents' right to know will be

discussed and how you can request information on our highly qualified staff. We will review how funds from Title are spent on parental involvement as well as review state test scores, timelines, and school compacts. A question and answer session will then be held for parents to voice opinions, concerns, and provide input for the school.

B. FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Lizana Elementary will offer a flexible number of engagement meetings at convenient times for families, such as meetings in the morning or evening (for which the school may use Title I funds to provide transportation, childcare or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement).

C. JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Lizana Elementary will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan.

Parents will be involved throughout the year through PTA meetings each month as well as our title meetings at the beginning and end of the school year. At those times, parents will be able to provide feedback and give input on improvement and review of family engagement programs. Our policy will be distributed through our meetings as well as our school website.

D. COMMUNICATION

Lizana Elementary will provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under Title I, including:

- a) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use,
- b) forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress,
- c) achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, and
- d) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicable possible.

Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, will be sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand

Lizana Elementary will be communicating in a uniform format in many ways to ensure stakeholders are an integral part of our school. Information will be written in parent-friendly language and shared verbally during the annual Title I meeting. It will also be shared on the school's website. Other academic information will be disseminated to parents and families in an understandable format. Care is taken to write the information in parent-friendly terms. In addition, this information is often dispersed during weekly newsletters and parent meetings held throughout the year. During this time, teachers are available to explain and discuss the information. Important data results and other

information are often translated into the home language of the student. Phone call outs and our school social media website will also communicate with stakeholders on a regular basis.

E. DISSENSION PROCESS

Lizana Elementary will submit any comments/concerns to the Harrison County School District Superintendent's office if the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents.

Any comments/concerns can be emailed to the Director of Federal Programs, Melissa Garrison, at mgarrison@harrison.k12.ms.us or phone at 228-539-6500.

F. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Lizana Elementary will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated.

- a) At the beginning of the school year, School-Parent Compact is sent home for parents and families to review and gather input.
- b) Meeting will be held for staff, parents, students, and other stakeholders to understand the compact, review the compact, and revise as needed based off feedback/input from parents, staff, and students. Once finalized, the compact will be reviewed at the Spring meeting.
- c) Lizana Elementary will hold a meeting in the spring (March/April timeframe) to review and update any changes needed for the upcoming school year.

G. BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Lizana Elementary will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Provide assistance to parents of participating children, 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, Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and

- how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Educate school personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of the contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents to fully participate in the education of their children.

At Lizana Elementary we provide our parents with online resources on our district website such as thinking maps, ESEA FelxFaq-Families, Parent Institute, Cyber Safety Awareness, NetSmartz, and a public library system. We also have academic and benchmark data conferences to communicate and assist our parents in help their child achieve social and academic achievement. The programs we offer at Lizana Elementary also transition to the home to help not only students but parents stay involved in what we are doing in the classroom such as Lexia (ELA), IReady (ELA/Math), and Khan Academy (Math). We also hold meetings throughout the year to hit on different topics and academic areas such as our Book Fair project.

H. ACCESSIBILITY

Lizana Elementary in carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities, for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with 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 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

All engagement activities at Lizana Elementary are designed to meet the needs of those who are economically disadvantaged. At Lizana Elementary, most of our students are economically disadvantaged. So, our school is handicap accessible to accommodate the disabled, those in wheelchairs, and who need assistance. Our academic progress reports are provided to parents and teachers can explain the data individually or small groups as one means of making those with limited literacy feel included. Reports and other information are presented in parent-friendly language. Activities for the inclusion of families with limited English include strategies from communication with the school and ways parents can participate in their child's education. For communication purposes we inform parents through our website, social media page, newsletters, assessment results sent home, parent conference, email, and telephone.