



PENN CAMBRIA TITLE ONE District Parent & Family Engagement Policy

Recognizing that when families, communities, and schools work together students are more likely to succeed, Penn Cambria School District hereby establishes the following district level Parent and Family Engagement Policy:

Item #1: Written Policy Development Process

It is the policy of Penn Cambria School District to develop, review, revise as needed and implement the Title I required Written Parent & Family Engagement Policy using the following steps in each building:

1. Parent Title 1 Meeting-Parents will be invited to participate in a Title 1 meeting each school year.
2. Parental Involvement Input: Parents will be actively solicited to give input to develop or revise the building policy. Input will be provided through meetings, conferences, phone calls, surveys, emails, and other methods as needed throughout the school year.
3. Draft Written Policies: Copies of the written policies will be given to parent representatives for their consideration.
4. Final Written Policies: The final written policies, after being approved by the parents and the school officials, will be printed and disseminated to parents and posted on the district website.

Item #2: Policy Involvement

It is the policy of Penn Cambria School District to:

1. Convene an annual meeting each school year for all parents of participating children at which the Title 1 program will be explained.
2. Provide meetings as per a year-long parental involvement calendar developed jointly by parents and the school.
3. Provide agendas for meetings above that cover:
 - a. Timely information (budget, program reports, etc.)
 - b. School accountability data and other data related to school review
 - c. Updates on curriculum and assessment
 - d. Brainstorming sessions for parental input planning and review
 - e. Timely response to parents' suggestions
4. Provide a process for documenting parent concerns and suggestions on school-wide plans.
5. Provide parent representation on schoolwide planning committees to aid in the joint development of the Title 1 plan and to conduct school review and improvement planning.

6. Collect input from parents and family members using tools such as surveys to aid in the joint development of the Title 1 plan.

Item #3: Shared Responsibility for High Student Performance

It is the policy of the Penn Cambria School District to implement an agreed upon Home-School Compact.

Item #4: Building Capacity for Involvement

In order to foster effective involvement of parents and support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student achievement – It is the policy of the Penn Cambria School District to:

1. Provide assistance to parents in such areas as:
 - Federal education goals and performance standards
 - State Academic Standards
 - State and local assessments
 - Title 1 law and requirements
 - Monitoring a child’s progress
 - Working with educators
 - Participating in decisions related to their child’s education
 - Understanding the Penn Cambria curriculum and expectations for student achievement at each grade level by:
 - Holding various orientation and information meetings throughout the year
 - Providing summaries and explanations of each area and each document mentioned above
 - Providing training in areas as needed
2. Provide materials to parents and referrals to programs that provide:
 - Literacy strategies to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s achievement; and
3. Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in:
 - The value and utility of contributions of parents
 - How to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners; and
 - Implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between home and school
4. Coordinate and integrate parent programs and activities with Penn Cambria Pre-K Counts program
5. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other Federal, State, and local laws and programs

6. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities, including:
 - Providing information about opportunities for organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools
 - Encouraging the formation of partnerships between the elementary, middle and secondary schools and local businesses that include a role for parents;
7. Conduct other activities, as appropriate and feasible: (examples: providing parents with online tools to facilitate communication with teachers such as updated directories and providing take home activities for parents to help reinforce specific skills)
8. Ensure, to the extent possible, that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the homes of participating children in the language used in the homes
9. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educator through their participation on the district professional development committee
10. Provide necessary literacy training from funds
11. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement which might include:
 - ·Transportation
 - ·Child Care Costs
12. Arrange meetings at a variety of times to maximize the opportunities for parents to participate in school-related activities
13. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement
14. Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request

Item #5: Accessibility

It is the policy of the Penn Cambria School District to provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiencies and/or disabilities by:

- Translating the law, rules, and other pertinent information to the appropriate language;
- By providing verbal information through audio, video, or personal presentations.