



# Bushkill Elementary School

2022-2023

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy

### Purpose

Bushkill Elementary School recognizes that meaningful parent and family engagement contributes to the achievement of state academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. This policy was developed by Bushkill Elementary School in collaboration with, and agreed to by, parents and family members. It describes how parents and family members will be engaged at the school level and the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116.

### What is Family Engagement

Bushkill Elementary School 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



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## Components of Bushkill Elementary School's Parent and Family Engagement policy

This policy complies with federal law related to the engagement of parents and family members, 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.

### **ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Bushkill Elementary School 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.

**An annual Title I Parent Meeting** will be held each year to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, as well as parents' rights to be involved. Notice of the meeting will be given via:

- School Website
- Email and/or phone call
- Sapphire
- Class Dojo

### **FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

Bushkill Elementary School 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, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement).

- Annual Title I meeting on September 22, 2022 at 4:00 pm.
- Conferences fall and spring, day and evening hours available
- Family events, day and evening
- Meetings by appointment at parent request

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Bushkill Elementary School 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.

- Prior to the 2023-2024 school year, we will meet with parents and other stakeholders to review and update the current Title I Comprehensive School Plan.
- During our Annual Title I Parent Meeting parents will receive information about the school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan and will be informed of their parental right to be involved in the planning and development of the plan through meetings, surveys and questionnaires. If the program plan is not satisfactory to parents, they may submit comments on the plan to the school administrator. The finalized plan will be sent via email and posted to the school website.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Bushkill Elementary School 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.

- Information will also be provided through various means, including:

- Fall Open House
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Fall/Spring)
- District Website
- School Website
- Sapphire
- Email and/or phone call
- Title I Bushkill Resources
- Class Dojo
- Newsletter
- Parent Workshops
- PTO Meetings

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Bushkill Elementary School 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.

Bushkill Elementary School will hold an annual parent meeting to review and discuss any needed changes to the jointly developed school compact. This compact will outline how the entire school staff, parents, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact will describe not only the school's responsibility in providing high quality instruction and curriculum, but the student and parent responsibilities for meeting and supporting the learning processes. The updated compact will be sent home with each student at the beginning of the school year and be posted on the school's website.

## **BUILD CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Bushkill Elementary School 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.
- Bushkill Elementary School will offer parent workshops during the school year on a variety of topics related to literacy.
- Information will also be provided through various means, including:
  - Fall Open House
  - Annual Title I Parent Meeting
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences (Fall/Spring)
  - District Website
  - School Website
  - Sapphire
  - Email and/or phone call
  - Title I Bushkill Resources
  - Class Dojo
  - Newsletter
  - Parent Workshops
  - PTO Meetings
- School personnel receive professional development at the start of each school year to reinforce the importance of parents as partners in their child's education.
- Bushkill faculty coordinates with Head Start of Lackawanna County, as well as the Monroe and Pike County Libraries.





## **ACCESSIBILITY**

Bushkill Elementary School, in carrying out these parent and family engagement requirements, shall provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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.

The school will make any reasonable accommodations necessary to ensure the inclusion of all parents and family members. For example, the school and district websites can be translated on the webpage, all documents can be translated through a translation program, and a translator, to the extent practicable, will be provided upon request.



The mission of Bushkill Elementary School, a culturally diverse, rapidly growing, united community, is dedicated to creating a sound foundation in shaping each student to become a positive, respectful, well-rounded citizen on a lifelong journey of success.

