

**Local Educational Agency (LEA)/District Level  
Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan  
*Thomas A. Edison Charter School  
School Year 2023-2024  
Revision Date 03/1/2024***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Thomas A. Edison Charter School 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 that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

**Thomas A. Edison Charter School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:**

- Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) 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 ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with federal law.
- 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 full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA 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 ESSA, 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 state Department of Education.
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement/family engagement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

Family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school

- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED  
LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

**JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESSA:

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education:

- Thomas Edison will provide meeting space and time through the Parent/Teacher Organization.
- Thomas Edison will provide training from the Title I coordinator.
- Thomas Edison will provide access to all necessary technology and/or necessary equipment
- Thomas Edison will provide support for parents or staff to attend any State and/or National Title I training.

**ANNUAL EVALUATION**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful engagement of parents and family members, 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 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 evaluation will also include identifying 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. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

- Thomas Edison will send a survey home to all parents.
- Thomas Edison Administration, Teachers, Staff, and Parents will review the data and analyze the results.
- Thomas Edison will ensure that all parent subgroups are represented.

## **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School will involve the parents and family members 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 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

- Invite all parents and stakeholders to monthly parental involvement meetings at the school.
- Host monthly meetings and provide refreshments for parents to learn about new and existing programs at the school.

## **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- All parents will receive written communication in parent-friendly language.
- Parents will be notified of all meetings, workshops, conferences and events through our Alert-Now phone notification system.
- Notifications of all meetings, workshops, parent/teacher conferences will be posted on our website.
- Any parent needing the information translated, will have that done for them.
- Thomas Edison will host monthly Parent/Teacher Organization meetings where state standards and academic achievement will be discussed.
- Thomas Edison will ensure all parents are notified of their child's progress through interim and trimester reports.
- Thomas Edison will host Parent/Teacher Conferences where parents are able to learn about their child's progress and the programs offered at Thomas Edison
- Parents will have access to their child's grades on the Home Access Center provided through eSchool.
- Monthly workshops will be offered to parents on parenting skills, ways to work with the school, and various other topics.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will build parents' capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State academic standards
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators

- Any parent needing the information translated, will have that done for them.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Thomas A. Edison Charter School (TECS) will educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff in the value and utility of 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 schools by:

- New Teachers will be trained at their orientation about effective ways to communicate with parents
- Training will be provided for teachers on ways to involve parents in the classroom
- Parents will be invited to attend a 100-Book Challenge workshop to work with teachers on ways to help students achieve.
- We will hold PLC meetings for teachers where we develop new strategies for reaching out to parents.
- The PTO president will meet with teachers and parents to discuss ways to increase parental involvement and communication with parents.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT**

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Training parents to enhance the engagement of other parents
- Maximize family engagement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving family engagement
- Establishing a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in family engagement activities
  - Host a 100-Book Challenge Parental Reading Workshop
  - Schedule afternoon and evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
  - Host Monthly After-School Parent Meetings.
  - Offer remedial online program (Achieve 3000) for students to access at school and at home.

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**ADOPTION**

Thomas Edison Charter School parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

This policy was adopted by the Thomas A. Edison Charter School on September 1, 2023 and will be in effect for the period of the 2023-2024 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before November 30, 2023.

  
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*(Signature of Authorized Official)*

**9-1-2023**  
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*(Date)*