

THE DELTA ACADEMY

The Delta Academy Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

1. Introduction

Title I is a federal program that provides funding to local school districts and charter schools to improve the academic achievement of student coming from low-income families, are in foster homes, or who live with families receiving temporary assistance from state governments. For Delta Academy, Title I funds have been used to purchase classroom sets of laptop computers and web-based academic intervention programs. These funds also have been used to pay for two Student Success Coordinators.

2. Parent Survey

In September of 2022, Delta Academy sent out a school-wide parent survey. The survey consisted of 21 questions measuring parent perceptions regarding the educational system and experience with staff at Delta Academy. The results of the survey indicate the following areas of strength: The school has high expectations for learning; School staff treat learners and families with respect; The school measures student learning progress and; The school thinks about student safety when making decisions. The results of the survey indicate the following areas in need of improvement: Students had learning experiences that were unique to their needs; Students had activities that taught them about different cultures and; Teachers and staff set aside time to build relationships with the learners. Based on these results, Delta administration has been meeting with the teachers to discuss techniques of differentiating instruction in an online environment. Delta has added numerous after-school clubs so staff can get to know and build relationships with the students in a non-academic environment. One of the clubs Delta added was the Culture Club, which teaches students about various different cultures from around the world. A parent meeting was held on August 7, 2023 to review Delta's school-wide policies and procedures as well as to review an outline of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. An additional parent meeting will be held on August 31, 2023 to review Delta's Title I program, share student data and to finalize the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

3. Parent Engagement Process

This policy has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the Delta Academy and parents served in the school pursuant to Title I. Delta convened a parent meeting on August 7, 2023 to discuss the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Delta will hold another meeting on August 31, 2023 to review the resources available to all families. The school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, developed by the school's Title I committee, is distributed in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Title I Annual PowerPoint Presentation also are made available to the community via the Delta Academy website.

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The Delta Academy involves parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I programs, School Performance Plan and Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Delta is offering two parent workshops per month from August, 2023 to May, 2024. Light refreshments, child care and translation services will be available for all 20 parent workshops.

4. Education Involvement Accords

Delta Academy's Education Involvement Accords are integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review the accords prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the accords whenever needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions.

5. Academic Achievement of Students

A. Administration and staff will:

- Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic standards, state and local assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor their student's academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of the student. Delta's staff conducts four parent meetings throughout the year. During these meetings, we discuss test data, requirements to matriculate from grade-to-grade, high school graduation requirements, current grades and course expectations.
- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet the state academic standards.
- Offer parent involvement activities in the school that will include opportunities for parents to volunteer and be involved in school activities. Delta offers parenting classes to the parents of Delta students. We also email parents surveys regarding proposed programs and ways to participate in after-school activities.

B. During some of the parent meetings, Delta staff reviews course requirements and will loan textbooks to parents who need additional assistance with helping their children in certain subject areas.

C. Through the four professional development days, school administration, various community members and parents, educate teachers, pupil service personnel and other staff in:

- The value and utility of contributions of parents

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- How to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners (school open house/parent nights and frequent parent/teacher conferences)
 - Implementing and coordinating parent programs (Title I, Project 150 and the Morlon Greenwood Foundation offers parent programs at Delta)
 - Building ties between parents and the school (Delta staff delivered over 100 Thanksgiving dinners and will be handing out over 100 Christmas dinners the parents of Delta students).
- D. Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Delta sends emails, text messages and pushes notifications on all social media platforms to the parents regarding programs and meetings.
- E. The administration implements various parent engagement programs throughout the school year in an attempt to encourage and support parents and family members to become more fully involved in the education of their children. These programs include bi-monthly parent workshops that are presented in person and via Zoom. Childcare and translation services are available during these workshops. Delta has partnered with Project 150 to provide clothes and food to Delta students and their parents. Additionally, Delta's school social workers work diligently with families in need of assistance. They support the parents and provide referrals to various community organizations.
- F. School staff will provide reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents may request (i.e., parent comment or suggestion sheets, etc.). Currently, Delta frequently emails and texts surveys to parents to obtain their feelings regarding Delta's educational program suggestions for improvement.