



**Bryan Independent School District**  
**2023-24 District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, ESSA Section 1116**

The District Parent and Family Engagement Policy sets the expectations for parent and family engagement in Bryan ISD. It works to fulfill Bryan ISD’s vision of “Children First. Always.” The District seeks to collaborate with parents as full partners in the learning and development of their children through the following methods.

1. *Bryan ISD* will reach out to all parents and family members and implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and family members in programs consistent with the requirements of ESSA Section 1116. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children [Section 1116 (a)(1)].

Bryan ISD will reach out and engage in conversations with parents and families to gather meaningful feedback through District Educational Improvement Council and parent surveys. Special attention will be given to engaging parents of children participating in Title I Programs.

2. *Bryan ISD* receives Title I, Part A funds. Our goal is to plan and implement effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Therefore, *Bryan ISD* will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy [Section 1116 (a)(2)].

- The policy shall be incorporated into the local educational agency’s plan developed under section 1112 (District Improvement Plan, DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN),
- The policy will establish the LEA’s expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement.

Bryan ISD parents and district personnel will meet annually in the spring to jointly review and revise our district’s Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The role of the parents in the process will be to provide feedback and recommendations, and agree upon the updated policy. English and Spanish versions of the revised policy will be posted on the district website, the student handbook, and distributed and explained to parents at annual Title I meetings at each Title I campus. The policy will also be incorporated into the district improvement plan.

3. *Bryan ISD* will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan (District Improvement Plan) under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d) [Section 1116 (a)(2)(A)].

Bryan ISD parents and district personnel will meet annually in the spring to jointly review and revise our District Improvement Plan. The role of the parents in the process will be to provide feedback and recommendations, and agree upon the updated District Improvement Plan. The plan will be shared with parents and the local community on the district website and will be available in the language of the home via Google translate.

4. *Bryan ISD* will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency, in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement 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 [Section 1116 (a)(2)(B)].

Bryan ISD Director of Counseling will provide coordination, technical assistance, and support to Title I campuses through regular meetings with campus Parent and Family Engagement facilitators to build the capacity of campus Parent and Family Engagement programs. The District Educational Improvement Council and parent surveys will be used as a resource to review and discuss strategies to work with parents for student success.

5. *Bryan ISD* will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children [Section 1116 (a)(2)(C) and Section 1116 (e)(4)].

Bryan ISD will coordinate and integrate Parent and Family Engagement events and activities with other campus activities, including preschool programs and literacy activities, to encourage families to be involved in their child's education, and conduct other activities such as parent resource centers and Parent Kiosks at every Title I campus for parents to access and participate in information about their child's education and school.

6. *Bryan ISD* will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying [Section 1116 (a)(2)(D)]:
- barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (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 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.

Bryan ISD parents and district personnel will meet annually in the spring to jointly evaluate our district's Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The evaluation will identify:

- Barriers to participation,
- Needs of parents to assist in their child's learning, and
- Strategies to support successful school-family interactions.

The role of the parents in the process will be to provide feedback and recommendations in designing strategies for more effective Parent and Family Engagement.

7. *Bryan ISD* will use the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies [Section 1116 (a)(2)(E)].

Bryan ISD will use findings from parent feedback and recommendations from District Educational Improvement Council meetings and parent surveys to help design and implement evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement. The district will use the findings to revise, if necessary, the district Parent and Family Engagement policy and plan Parent and Family Engagement activities to support these strategies. The updated policy will be made available on the district website, the student handbook, and distributed and explained to parents at annual Title I meetings at each Title I campus.

8. *Bryan ISD* will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy and provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request [Section 1116 (a)(2)(F) and Section 1116 (e)(14)].

Bryan ISD will involve parents in the activities of the school by inviting and encouraging parents to serve on parent groups and committees, such as PTO and Parent Leadership Team. Parent Leadership Team members are selected by campus principals to represent their school. Duties of the team members include discussion and feedback on district events and input on state and federal education programs. Additionally, district personnel will provide to campus Parent and Family Engagement facilitator's information on Title I, Part A and support for other types of Parent and Family Engagement programs or services provided by schools or frequently requested by parents and families.

9. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, *Bryan ISD* shall:

- (i) provide assistance to parents of children served by the local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of the parent and family engagement program, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children [Section 1116 (e)(1)];

Bryan ISD will provide assistance to parents in understanding the topics listed above by conducting two annual Title I meetings at each Title I campus. The first of the two meetings will be held during the first nine-weeks of school and more than one method (e.g. letters/post cards, newsletters, social media, Parent Link, and school marques) will be used to notify parents of the dates and times.

- (ii) provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement [Section 1116 (e)(2)];

Bryan ISD will provide materials and training to assist parents on topics listed above at Parent and Family Engagement programs, meetings and activities held at Title I campuses during the fall and spring semesters. Parents will be informed of the dates and times of programs, meetings and activities through newsletters, social media, Parent Link, classroom teachers, Tuesday folders, Parent Folder, and school marques.

- (iii) educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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 the school [Section 1116 (e)(3)];

Bryan ISD district personnel will provide training information on topics listed above to campus Parent and Family Engagement facilitators to educate teachers and staff at the beginning of every school year. Parent surveys will be used to include parents in the development of these trainings. In addition, the Director of Counseling will provide three trainings a year to campus Parent and Family Engagement facilitators to support and train principals and teachers to promote Parent and Family Engagement activities.

- (iv) ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand [Section 1116 (e)(5)].

As outlined in the Bryan ISD Translation and Interpretation Policy, the district will provide translation of vital school documents in Spanish, and other languages as needed and requested, to the extent practicable. Such documents include the district and campus parent and family engagement policy, the home-school compact, Parents Right to Know, explanation of campus's curriculum, information on forms of academic assessment, promotional information about training and activities, and IEPs. Oral translation will be provided as needed for school-related communications, and equipment for simultaneous translation will be available for campuses to checkout for Parent and Family Engagement activities.

*The Bryan ISD Parent and Family Engagement Policy is evaluated and updated annually with the help of parents. The 2023-24 policy is the result of an evaluation involving parents at the Bryan ISD District Educational Improvement Council on April 13, 2023.*