

EAST FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Date Reviewed/Revised: 6/25/2026, 1 PM

East Forest Elementary School recognizes that parents and families are children's first teachers and essential partners in education. The school is committed to developing and maintaining meaningful, highly personalized partnerships between home and school to support student achievement and ensure strict compliance with Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

East Forest Elementary School will involve parents and family members in the annual review and revision of this Parent and Family Engagement Policy through surveys, parent feedback forms, Title I meetings, and participation in the school's Parent Advisory Committee. Parent input will be used to improve family engagement activities and strengthen home-school partnerships.

Annual Title I Meeting

East Forest Elementary School will hold its annual Title I meeting each summer. All parents and family members of participating students will be invited and encouraged to attend before the start of the new school year. Under the direction of the Federal Programs Coordinator, Mrs. Lisa Banner, and school leadership, families attending this summer meeting will:

- Learn about the school's participation in the Title I program.
- Review parent rights under ESSA.
- Receive information regarding Title I services and funding.
- Discuss opportunities for involvement in school programs and activities.

Flexible Meeting Opportunities & Family Events

To encourage maximum participation, East Forest Elementary School will offer family engagement meetings at varying times throughout the school year, including daytime and evening options. Virtual participation opportunities may also be provided when appropriate.

In strict alignment with the school's joint commitments, East Forest Elementary will host major community events to build capacity and welcome families into the building, including:

- The Annual Fall Open House
- Official Parent-Teacher Conference Days
- The Thanksgiving Family Luncheon

- The Spring Family Luncheon

Parent and Family Involvement in School Improvement

Parents and family members will be invited to participate in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, Schoolwide Plan, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and family engagement activities through surveys, advisory meetings, and school improvement discussions.

Information About the Title I Program

Parents will receive timely information regarding Title I services, eligibility, program goals, and student academic support services. Information will be distributed transparently through newsletters, the district website, parent meetings, phone messaging systems, email, and direct written communications.

Curriculum, Assessments, and Academic Standards

East Forest Elementary School will provide parents with information regarding:

- Pennsylvania Academic Standards and grade-level learning expectations.
- School curriculum and instructional programs.
- State (PSSA) and local diagnostic assessments.
- Individual student progress tracking.

Teachers and staff will explain assessment results and instructional practices during conferences, meetings, and ongoing conversations.

Parent Requests and Suggestions

Parents may request meetings with teachers, administrators, or Title I staff at any time. The school will respond promptly to parent questions, concerns, and suggestions and will consider parent recommendations when making educational decisions.

Schoolwide Program Planning

As a Schoolwide Title I program, East Forest Elementary School will involve parents and family members in the development, review, and evaluation of the Schoolwide Plan through annual meetings, surveys, and participation in school improvement activities.

School-Parent Compact Alignment

In accordance with Section 1116(d) of ESSA, East Forest Elementary School jointly develops and maintains a School-Parent-Student Compact. This compact is a shared team agreement between families, students, and staff to ensure every child reaches their highest potential.

To fulfill the requirements of the compact, communication and progress tracking between home and school will include:

- At least one annual parent-teacher conference to discuss the compact's actionable commitments.
- Frequent access to student progress reports, including digital grading access through the CSIU system, midquarter reports, quarterly report cards, and targeted email or telephone communication.
- Reasonable access to staff and clear opportunities for classroom volunteering, visits, and direct participation.
- Meaningful, two-way communication in a language families can understand via the district all-call system, Remind app, and professional emails.

Building Parent Capacity

East Forest Elementary School will assist families by offering workshops focused on literacy, mathematics, and supporting learning at home; training on educational technology and online learning tools (including monitoring grades via the CSIU system); and resources to help families monitor student progress, practice home structure, and communicate effectively with school staff.

Staff Development & Core Values

School staff will receive professional development regarding effective family engagement practices, centering around treating each child with dignity and respect, and striving to meet individual academic needs. Staff will incorporate parent feedback and perspectives to continually strengthen relationships and ensure a safe, positive, and healthy learning environment.

Coordination with Other Programs & Inclusion

East Forest Elementary School will coordinate family engagement activities with preschool programs, special education services, community agencies, and other federal, state, and local programs to support successful transitions. Meaningful participation opportunities will be provided for all families, including those with limited English proficiency, families of students with disabilities, and migratory families.

This policy was jointly developed and reviewed with parents and family members. It will be distributed annually to all families of participating students and made available to the local community.

School Administration & Federal Contacts:

- **Superintendent:** Mrs. Amy Beers | abeers@forestareaschools.org | 814-755-4491
- **Principal:** Mr. Luke Alex | lalex@forestareaschools.org | 814-927-6688
- **Federal Programs Coordinator:** Mrs. Lisa Banner | lbanner@forestareaschools.org
- **Reading Specialist Teacher:** Miss Emma Cussins | ecussins@forestareaschools.org

- **District Website:** www.forestareaschools.org