

EAST FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

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

East Forest High School (Grades 7–12) 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 among families, educators, students, and the community to support secondary academic success and ensure strict compliance with Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Development and Annual Review of the Policy

East Forest High 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 actively used to improve secondary family engagement activities and strengthen home-school partnerships.

Annual Title I Parent Meeting

East Forest High School will hold its annual Title I meeting each summer at a convenient time for families prior to 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 and student eligibility.
- Review ESSA parent rights and opportunities for involvement.
- Receive information regarding Title I secondary services, interventions, and funding.
- Discuss opportunities for involvement in school programs, athletic compliance paths, and activities.

Flexible Family Engagement Opportunities & Secondary Events

To encourage maximum participation, East Forest High 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 our high school compact commitments, East Forest will host key annual community, athletic, and traditional events to build capacity and welcome families into the junior/senior high building, including:

- The Annual Fall Open House

- Official Parent-Teacher Conference Days
- The Traditional Thanksgiving Family Luncheon
- Homecoming Festivities (Promoting secondary school spirit, community identity, and family connection)
- Secondary academic workshops, path planning sessions, and parent consultations.

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

The school will provide families with information regarding:

- Pennsylvania Academic Standards and secondary grade-level learning expectations.
- Core junior/senior high curriculum and instructional programs.
- State (PSSA / Keystone Exams) and local diagnostic assessments.
- Individual student progress tracking.

The principal, teachers, and staff will explain assessment results, intervention plans, and classroom instructional practices during conferences, workshops, and parent meetings.

Parent Input and Meeting Requests

Parents may request meetings with teachers, Title I staff, counselors, or administrators at any time to discuss concerns, recommendations, or educational decisions affecting their children. The school will respond promptly and work collaboratively with families.

Schoolwide Program Planning

As a Schoolwide Title I program, East Forest High 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.

Shared Responsibility: The High School Compact

In accordance with Section 1116(d) of ESSA, East Forest High School jointly develops and maintains a School-Parent-Student Compact outlining the team framework for shared academic achievement. At the secondary level, this agreement balances home support with increasing student autonomy.

To fulfill the specific communication promises in our high school compact, progress tracking and dialogue between home and school will include:

- At least one annual parent-teacher conference to directly discuss the compact's actionable commitments.
- Frequent access to student progress updates, including tracking grades in the digital CSIU system, midquarter reports, quarterly report cards, and targeted email or telephone communication.
- Student Accountability Tracking, explicitly requiring students to actively monitor their own grades through the CSIU system to cultivate self-advocacy and ownership of their learning.
- Reasonable access to staff and clear opportunities for family participation, classroom visits, and secondary volunteering.
- Meaningful, two-way communication via the district all-call system, Remind app, and professional emails.

Building Family Capacity & Staff Training

East Forest High School will support families by providing literacy, math, and study skill resources for home use, training on educational technology tools (including monitoring grades via the CSIU system), and family workshops focused on secondary academic support strategies.

School personnel will receive professional development regarding effective family engagement practices, centering around treating secondary students with dignity, creating a safe and positive learning environment, and striving to meet individual academic needs.

Coordination with Other Programs & Inclusion

East Forest High School will coordinate parent involvement activities with local career and technical programs, community organizations, special education services, and post-secondary planning agencies to support successful student transitions. Meaningful participation opportunities will be provided for all parents, including families with limited English proficiency, families of students with disabilities, migratory families, and families requiring additional accommodations.

This policy was jointly developed with parents and family members. It will be distributed annually to all participating families 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
- **Head Teacher:** Mrs. Misty Hartle | mhartle@forestareaschools.org
- **Federal Programs Coordinator:** Mrs. Lisa Banner | lbanner@forestareaschools.org
- **Reading Specialist Teacher:** Miss Emma Cussins | ecussins@forestareaschools.org
- **District Website:** www.forestareaschools.org