

# FOREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Title I District-Wide (LEA) Parent and Family Engagement Policy

**Date Reviewed/Revised:** June 24/25, 2026

The Forest Area School District (LEA) agrees to implement the statutory requirements of Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to ensure a consistent, high-quality partnership among families, school administrators, and the community across all district campuses.

The district recognizes that family engagement is vital to student achievement. Given our unique rural setting and close-knit community footprints, central administration will work hand-in-hand with our four Title I schoolwide buildings (East Forest Elementary, West Forest Elementary, East Forest High School, and West Forest High School) to build strong, localized home-school partnerships.

### 1. Joint Development of District Plans

The Forest Area School District will involve parents and family members in the joint development, annual review, and strategic evaluation of the District Improvement Plan and LEA Title I Plan.

- **PAC and SPAC Integration:** Input will be gathered systematically through annual stakeholder surveys, district-level parent planning meetings, and coordination with building-level Parent Advisory Committees (PAC). The district will also utilize resources and feedback channels aligned with the State Parent Advisory Council (SPAC).
- **Policy Revision:** This LEA-wide policy will be evaluated annually to identify and eliminate barriers to participation, with special attention given to low-income families, families of students with disabilities, families with limited English proficiency, and migratory families.

### 2. Technical Assistance and Support to Schools

The central administration office, under the guidance of the Federal Programs Coordinator, will provide consistent technical assistance, professional guidance, and budgetary support to help all four school sites plan and execute effective family engagement activities.

- **Compact & Policy Alignment:** The LEA ensures that each building jointly develops a School-Parent-Student Compact and a building-level policy that reflects their specific community calendar and data goals.
- **Operational Support:** The district will assist schools in coordinating and cross-promoting high-yield community events, ensuring administrative visibility at landmark

building events such as the Annual Fall Open Houses, Thanksgiving Family Luncheons, Spring Family Luncheons, Homecoming Festivities, and the Annual Carnivals.

### **3. Coordination of Family Engagement Across Programs**

To maximize impact and streamline community resources, the Forest Area School District will deliberately coordinate and integrate its Title I family engagement strategies with other federal, state, and local educational programs.

- **Early Childhood Transitions:** The district will coordinate outreach with local preschool and early intervention systems to support smooth transitions for incoming families into East Forest Elementary (PK-6) and West Forest Elementary (PK-6).
- **Secondary and Vocational Pathways:** The LEA will foster partnerships connecting East Forest High School (7-12) and West Forest High School (7-12) family events with local career and technical programs, special education transition planning, and post-secondary preparation agencies.

### **4. Building LEA and Capacity for Strong Involvement**

The Forest Area School District will build capacity for strong family involvement through centralized tools, specialized staff training, and data transparency.

- **Academic Standards and Assessment Clarity:** The district will provide materials and hosting frameworks to ensure schools can clearly explain Pennsylvania Academic Standards, Keystone Exams, and PSSA expectations to parents during summer and school-year workshops.
- **Digital Tools Literacy:** The LEA will maintain, support, and provide training for the centralized digital systems used across all four buildings to ensure consistent two-way communication:
  - **The CSIU System:** Providing parents and secondary students secure, ongoing access to monitor grades, assignments, and attendance data.
  - **The Remind App & District All-Call System:** Ensuring immediate, unified distribution of building announcements, event alerts, and progress tracking reminders.
- **Professional Development:** The LEA will provide professional learning opportunities for administrators, head teachers, and instructional staff focusing on the value of parent contributions, treating families with dignity and respect, and delivering highly individualized learning experiences that leverage the district's small class sizes.

### **5. Annual Title I Parent Evaluation Meeting**

The district will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this family engagement policy.

- **The Summer Title I Assembly:** In keeping with district strategy, the Annual Title I Meeting will be held each summer prior to the start of the school year. Managed by the

Federal Programs Coordinator and district leadership, this meeting will review district-wide Title I funding, evaluate family engagement policies, and gather parent perspectives to drive continuous district improvement.

## **6. Accessible Communication in Understandable Formats**

The Forest Area School District ensures that all district-wide communication, policy updates, and meeting notices are distributed in a clear, parent-friendly format. To the extent practicable, translation and interpretation services, alternate formatting, and individualized accommodations will be proactively provided upon request to ensure equitable access for all families across the LEA.

**This District-Wide (LEA) Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon by, parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. It will be distributed annually to all district families and made available to the local community.**

### **District Leadership & Central Federal Contacts:**

- **Superintendent:** Mrs. Amy Beers | [abeers@forestareaschools.org](mailto:abeers@forestareaschools.org) | 814-755-4491
- **Federal Programs Coordinator:** Mrs. Lisa Banner | [lbanner@forestareaschools.org](mailto:lbanner@forestareaschools.org)
- **District Principal:** Mr. Luke Alex | [lalex@forestareaschools.org](mailto:lalex@forestareaschools.org)
- **District Website:** [www.forestareaschools.org](http://www.forestareaschools.org)