

2022-2023

Nodaway Valley Elementary School
Parent and Family Engagement Policy

It is the policy of the Nodaway Valley Community School District that parents and family members of participating children shall have the opportunity to be involved jointly in the development of the district plan and the district's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions; and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. This jointly developed and agreed upon written policy is available to all parents and families online through the Parent Handbook. Copies are made available to those families who do not have online access. (ESSA Section 1116 (a)(2))
2. The district will provide technical assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance through professional development regarding parent and family engagement. The district partners with The Warren Cultural Center, ISU Extension, local libraries, and other community groups to engage families more creatively and successfully. (ESSA Section 1116 (a)(2)(B))
3. The district will work to find ways to work cooperatively with other Federal, state, and local programs. The Title I program will work with the public preschools, Little Lambs, B-F preschool and Nodaway Valley preschool, the Greenfield and Fontanelle public libraries, and Nodaway Valley Special Education programs (IDEA). Our homeless education program coordinates with the local backpack program (K-6) and local food pantries to support students that are food insecure, especially over the weekends. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(C))
4. The district conducts an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The evaluation includes the parents' input. In addition to surveys, the district uses open discussion groups for this evaluation. The evaluations will target barriers, the ability to assist learning, and successful interactions. The district will provide materials in the parents native language when possible. (ESSA Section 1116 (a)(2)(D)(i-iii))

5. The district uses the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement. The evaluation results will help uncover best practices and adapt those ideas to the district and individual school needs. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii))

6. The district involves parents and family members in school activities. Parents are encouraged to participate in the NV Booster Club, Family Nights, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Preschool Family Nights, and other school activities. The district will establish a parent advisory committee comprised of a diverse population from the elementary school to represent the population's needs. This group will review and revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(F))

7. At least one annual meeting will be held to inform parents and family members of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. The meeting shall be for the parents of all students. The Title I Parent Meeting will be held in the fall. Notification will be sent through a note home with students and on the district website. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(1))

8. Parent and family meetings, including parent-teacher conferences, will be held at different times during the day, and Title 1 funds will be used to pay for Family Nights, parent meetings, and other reasonable expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(2))

9. The district will involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program through participation in open discussions and in-person meetings where parents give input and feedback. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(3))

10. Parents were asked to be involved in the joint development of the NV Elementary schoolwide plan through in-person meetings and surveys. (ESSA Sections 1116(c)(3) and 1114)

11. Parents and family members of participating children are assisted in understanding the Title I program with timely information about the Title I program. Through annual meetings and parent-teacher conferences, the school will provide parents and family members of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Parents and family members receive an explanation of the school's performance profile, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the expected proficiency levels in the annual progress report distributed to all stockholders in the spring of the year through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through report cards. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(4)(A) & (B))

12. At parents' request, the school will provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. The school will respond to any suggestions as soon as possible. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(4)(C))

13. If the school-wide plan under Section 1114(b) is not satisfactory, parents of participating students may comment. Comments are to be made in writing to the school principal, James Larson. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(5))

14. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents and family members, the entire school staff, and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve local high standards. This compact will be reviewed at the annual meeting. (ESSA Section 1116(d))

15. Parents will be notified of this policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be provided in English and Spanish and free of educational jargon. (ESSA Section 1116(b)(1))

16. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among Nodaway Valley Elementary School, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Nodaway Valley Elementary School shall:

- a. Assist parents in understanding challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- b. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement as appropriate to foster parental involvement;
- c. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other support 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 Nodaway Valley Community School District.
- d. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;
- e. 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; and
- f. Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. (ESSA Section 1116(e)(1-14))

17. Nodaway Valley Elementary, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children) by providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 in a format and language the parties can understand. (ESSA Section 1116(f))
