

Statement of Purpose:

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires schools to work extensively in cooperation with parents and school personnel in the decision making process. A percentage of the campus's Title I entitlement dollars are allocated and monitored by the federal government based upon Family Engagement. Major Cheney is committed to the goal of maintaining close communication with its parents and families to promote positive partnerships with the school. The staff and faculty will listen to the parents and will seek their input on decisions related to their child's educational needs. Together the school, parents and community can enhance the children's lives by working as a cooperative team, sharing ideas and visions for the future.

Development of Policy:

Major Cheney shall involve parents in the development and revision of the written Family Engagement policy. The policy will include a description of how the school will implement required school wide parental involvement components. [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118(a)(2)(A-F)]

Annual Meeting:

Each Title I campus will hold an annual meeting during the first semester of the new school year for all parents. At that meeting the Title I program will be described, the Family Engagement Policy will be discussed, and opportunities for parent and family participation will be explained. The annual meeting will be held at a convenient time and location; notice of the meeting will be provided through written invitations to parents/caregivers and through public notices. The annual meeting will be provided in English and Spanish. [P.L.107-110, Section 1118(c)(1)]

Parent-School Compacts:

In accordance with Title I regulations, Major Cheney is required to develop and annually updated a Parent-School compact jointly with school administrators, teachers and parents. The compacts will provide an outline to enable the school and parent to share responsibility for student performance and success. The compacts should be signed to show they are in agreement by the teacher, parent and student and are encouraged to discuss the contents. [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118(d)]

Programs and the School Community:

Title I Family Engagement Liaisons in BISD will assess the needs of the parents, families and children in the school community. The findings will be used to plan workshops or other training and will be made available to educators and parents and families to address these needs. Parents and families will be notified about the training opportunities. [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118(e)(1-2)]

Staff and Parent Communication:

Title I campuses will communicate with parents and families on a regular basis. The Student Handbook will be used to communicate rules/procedures with the parents. Newsletters, teacher notes, the school marquee, conferences, personal contacts, phone calls and written notices will be used to establish and maintain open lines of communication with parents and families as needed. As much as possible, all communication will be provided in Spanish, English and Vietnamese. [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118(e)(5) and (f)]

Funding:

Major Cheney is required to set aside at least 1% of its Title I funds for the purposes of family engagement. The Family Engagement Campus Liaison (Mr. Brown) is responsible for documentation of all family engagement activities that occur at their campus and to help educate faculty and staff on the importance of parent and family involvement. They will work with the district Title I Family Engagement Liaisons to ensure proper planning and spending of the Title I funds. Title I funds are supplemental and should not be used if it is required of all campuses in the district or state. [P.L. 107-110, Section 1118(a)(3)(A) and (e)(3)]

Conclusion:

Major Cheney is committed to the success of all students. We will work together with parents and families to monitor the effectiveness of our family engagement and Title I programs and to provide excellence in education. The policy will be promoted by all school staff as we seek active participation by our parents.