



2018 Title I School, Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The Title I Parent and Family Engagement Section of the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 1116 requires each Title I school to develop a written parent and family engagement policy that describes the means for carrying out the requirements of section 1116. Montessori Regional Charter School recognizes the family's role in the educational process and that meaningful parent and family engagement contributes to the social, emotional, and academic success for all students. This Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be updated annually by the Title I Parent Committee and distributed at the beginning of each new school year.

1. Parents/Guardians will be invited to participate in the Title I Parent Committee to plan, review and discuss improvements of the MRCS Title I program through Title I Parent Committee meetings and end of year school survey. (ESSA, Section 1116)
2. An annual meeting will be held to inform parents of MRCS' participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and parents' right to be involved. This meeting will be held in the fall of each year, invitations will be distributed through email or paper copies. An informational brochure describing the Title I program will be distributed each fall. (ESSA, Section 1116)
3. Family workshops, meetings and conferences will be offered at different times during the day. Meetings may be held in the morning, afternoon, or evening. (ESSA, Section 1116)
4. Parents and family members will participate in Committee Meetings for the planning, review, and improvement and for the joint development of the school's parent and family engagement program. (ESSA, Section 1116)

Set-aside

5. MRCS will provide parents/family members with timely information about the Title I program through monthly newsletters, Title I brochure, and progress reports sharing assessment data. (ESSA, Section 1116)
6. MRCS will provide all parents/guardians with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school; the forms of assessment such as AIMSweb and PSSA (summative) to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet through the use of a standard based progress report, Title I progress reports, and family conferences. (ESSA, Section 1116)
7. MRCS will provide, if requested by parents/guardians, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible, this would include parent/teacher conferences, student support meetings, and regular home to school communication. (ESSA, Section 1116)

8. Parent/family representatives will participate in Committee Meetings for the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan (ESSA, Section 1116)
9. The MRCS School-Parent & Family Compact will be jointly developed with parents and family members. The compact outlines how parents/family, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility of improved student achievement. This compact will be reviewed at Title I Parent Committee meetings and distributed in the fall. (ESSA, Section 1116)
10. MRCS will address the importance of communication between teachers, parents and family members. This will be done through family conferences, reports to parents, reasonable access to staff and to ensure two-way communication between family members and staff to the extent practicable in a language that family members can understand. (ESSA, Section 1116)
11. MRCS teachers/staff will assist all parents/guardians in understanding the State's academic content standards and student achievement standards and how to monitor student progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. This will be done through family conferences, the use of the standards based progress report and Title I progress reports. (ESSA, Section 1116)
12. Materials and training will be provided to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement. This will be accomplished through family meetings that provide strategies on literacy and mathematics and technology training. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent/family engagement activities. This may include transportation, childcare, food, manipulatives, and journals. (ESSA, Section 1116)
13. MRCS will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and family members, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and family members as equal partners. MRCS will implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and family members and the school. This will be done through a variety of family involvement activities-parent input will be a part of the Parent Committee meetings. (ESSA, Section 1116)
14. MRCS will to the extent feasible and appropriate 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 and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children. This will be addressed through the school's transition activities for students. (ESSA, Section 1116)
15. MRCS will ensure that related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and family members of participating children in a format and to the extent practicable in a language the parents and family members can understand. The Title I program will utilize various interpreting services to meet this requirement. (ESSA, Section 1116)
16. MRCS 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). Families will receive invitations to all Title I parent and family engagement events and all Title I communication through paper copies or email. (ESSA, Section 1116)