

605 TITLE ONE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Nerstrand School is committed to providing a quality education for every child. In order to achieve that goal, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents and guardians play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success.

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Nerstrand School agrees to implement the following requirements:

- Nerstrand School will provide programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents within the Title I programs. Families of participating children will have opportunities to have meaningful consultation for those programs, activities and procedures.
- Nerstrand School will work to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policy meets the Title I requirements.
- In carrying out the Title I parent engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, Nerstrand School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If Nerstrand School's policy for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to Minnesota Department of Education.
- Nerstrand School will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in Minnesota (i.e., Minnesota Parent Center, Bloomington, MN).

PART II. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. Nerstrand School will take the following actions to involve parents in the development of its district/school parent and family engagement policy:

Nerstrand School work with a sub-committee of parents to develop a plan for support in the subject area of math/literacy.

1. Nerstrand School will involve parents in the process of district and school plan, review and improvement [i.e. district plan, section 1112, schoolwide section 1114, and/or school improvement section 1116];

Nerstrand School will communicate with families by email, conferences, curriculum meetings and mailings. The school will use a range of assessments, including state data to identify students who qualify.

Staff engages in whole faculty staff development throughout the school year. Sessions will be scheduled to design and implement parent engagement.

1. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review and improvement of the school parental and family engagement policy;

Parent groups are currently involved in a strategic planning process and all parents have been invited to provide input to sub-committee work. Parent engagement and an action plan for developing programs will be one of the outcomes of this planning.

1. Nerstrand School will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental and family engagement;

Updates will be provided during Fall and Spring conferences that are held in the evenings and in the morning. Parents will be able to schedule a time that works for them. Parents who are not able to attend will be updated through email.

5. Nerstrand School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

The school will use funds to support identified students in the area of math and literacy. Title I funds will provide instructional support and training for staff

6. Nerstrand School will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental and family engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the activities specifically described below:

Nerstrand School will distribute and include on the web site family calendars prior to the beginning of the school year so that parents have advanced notice of school events.

Nerstrand School holds an Open House where families can tour the school, meet teachers, and students see their classrooms. Nerstrand School also holds a Curriculum Night. This evening is a chance for parents to come to school and get more information about their child's curriculum and teacher expectations.

7. If the school wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

A. Nerstrand School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph—

The state's academic content standards,
The state's student academic achievement standards,
The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
The requirements of Title I,
How to monitor their child's progress, and
How to work with educators.

Title I funds will support the school in expanding its parent education process. Specifically, funding will enable the school to provide additional curriculum and parent education evenings on the above topics.

B. Nerstrand School will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, 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 practically possible.

C. Nerstrand School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental and family engagement by:

Delivery during conferences.

D. Nerstrand School will, with the assistance of parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

As an outcome of the strategic planning process, the school will develop a team of parents to inform the school of ways to build partnerships and develop parent programs in the area of math and reading.

E. Nerstrand School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental and family engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

Title I funding will support the hiring of highly qualified staff to review the current math and reading programs, evaluate the needs of students and evaluate technology and other materials to support student academic growth.

F. Nerstrand School will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

Nerstrand School will communicate with parents via email, phone calls, letters sent home with students and conferences.

Nerstrand School sends families monthly family updates via email with information pertinent to parents. Nerstrand School does not currently have any ELL students.

8. Nerstrand School will coordinate and integrate parental and family engagement strategies under Title I with parental and family engagement strategies under the following other programs by:

Making changes to our curriculum night, to increase parent and family engagement.
Giving additional information to parents in regards to student support during conferences.

9. Nerstrand School will take the following actions to conduct, with the engagement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental and family engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the engagement of parents) its parental and family engagement policy.

Nerstrand School conducts an annual survey of parents. Additional survey work will be undertaken to get feedback from parents in regard to the new Title I program.

10. Nerstrand School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved,

Parents are involved in the strategic planning for guiding and financing the education program and parent engagement through the advisory committee and the Annual Meeting held in the fall. Parents also participate in and are invited to attend monthly finance committee and board meetings where all finance decisions are discussed and approved.

11. If the school wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

Parents will be invited to attend the Advisory Committee meetings in the spring. Parent feedback will be welcomed and will be used as part of the plan to be submitted to MDE for the following year.

PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

As a component of the school-level parental and family engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that

outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

- Conduct a parent/teacher conference in elementary schools, annually (at a minimum), during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement;
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and
- Provide parents with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities.

The Strategic Planning Committee will be reviewing parental and family engagement each year.

PART IV. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for engagement in the school and school system to support their children's' academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

Nerstrand School seeks to use its Title I plan to implement regular contact with families through parent education meetings at the school in regard to the academic and non-academic program.

Nerstrand School will arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or if necessary, conduct in-home conferences between educators, who work directly with the participating students, with parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.

Nerstrand School will adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental and family engagement.

Title I funds will support the cost of expenses relating to the school facilitating this.

PART V. ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part Nerstrand School, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Nerstrand School does not currently have any ELL students. Nerstrand school liaises with the authorizing district and social workers as necessary.

PART VI. ADOPTION

Nerstrand School Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes and sign-in sheets.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be in effect for the period of the 2018/2019 school years.

Nerstrand School will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children for the 2018/2019 school year.

Parents will be involved with the development of the Nerstrand School Parent and Family Engagement Policy through the school Nerstrand School Advisory Committee.