



# Tuluksak School SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

As authorized under ESEA, as amended

[School Year 2023-2024]

[Revision Date: 10/19/23]

Overview 2 Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components 3 Joint Development 3 Annual Title I,  
Part A Meeting 3 Communications 3 School-Parent Compact 4 Reservation of Funds 4 Coordination 4 Building  
Capacity of Parents and Family Members 5 Building Capacity of School Staff 5 Building Capacity for  
Engagement – Optional 6 Adoption 6

Form # 05-17-057

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

## Overview

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Yupiit School District** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. The policy establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The **Yupiit School District** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined in Section 1116 of the ESEA, as amended:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. [§1116(c)(3)]
- Update the school parent and family member policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents and family members of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community. [§1116(b)(1)]

- In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, local educational agencies and schools, to the extent practicable, shall 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), including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA, as amended, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. [§1116(e)(4)]
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA, as amended, 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 district. [§1116(c)(5)]
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I, Part A schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
  - Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
    - that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
    - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school; ▪ that parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
    - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116. [§8101(39)]

Form # 05-17-057

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

## Required Parent and Family Engagement Policy Components

### Joint Development

Tuluksak School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Tuluksak School will have an annual meeting within the first six weeks of school to discuss Title I funding and the programs it supports. Parents and family members are encouraged to share their ideas with school staff on what they would like to see the funding be used for and what programs and materials they would like their children to have access to in the school.

Monthly Local School Advisory Board Meetings review current school programs. Parents, students, and community members are invited to attend, participate, provide input, hear updates on programs, and make suggestions on continual improvement and needed change within the school. The administration is able to hear and respond to the community at these meetings as well as update them on requested changes.

## **Annual Title I, Part A Meeting**

Tuluksak School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I, Part A program, the nature of the Title I, Part A program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Within the first six weeks of the beginning of the school year, Tuluksak Schools hosts a community meeting that is locally advertised at the post office, store, school, and on social media. Attendees have the opportunity to watch a powerpoint, short video clips, and take a survey and provide feedback on Title I programs in the school.

Every opportunity is given to allow the parents and community to speak and share their thoughts and ideas about current programs and one they would like to see. The community and parents can also share concerns or ask questions and receive clarification about current programs that Title I, Part A supports.

Parents and community members are encouraged to sign-up for committees that they would like to serve on during the school year and/or share ways that they might like to volunteer with the school.

To make the meeting accessible to parents, they are encouraged to bring their children and activities are supervised for the children during the meeting.

Form # 05-17-057

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

## **Communications**

Tuluksak School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about Title I, Part A programs.
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.
- A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
- 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 practicably possible.
- Information related to the school and parent and family member 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.

- Within the first six weeks of school a meeting for parents is widely advertised and held. ● Parents are invited and actively encouraged to participate and provide feedback. ● Ongoing Monthly Family Engagement Nights sponsored by Title I Funds provide families the opportunity to experience these funds at work.
- Quarterly Coffee and Community Meetings provides parents, students, and community members ongoing opportunities to ask questions, discuss concerns, and share ideas with school staff. ● Both Yupik and English are encouraged at meetings to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to share their feelings and ideas in a way that is most natural and meaningful to them. ● Administration and teachers are available to meet with parents upon request.
- The community, parents, and students are considered partners in education in The Tuluksak School

### **School-Parent Compact**

Tuluksak School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- The school will hold an annual Open House to familiarize parents with school expectations and share how the school will support children and families with the education of students.
- Parents are invited to be part of committees that annually design school improvements and activities.
- The Local School Advisory Committee meets monthly to provide feedback and receive input on school operations.
- Parents are invited to at least two conferences annually to discuss the progress of their child.
- Parents are encouraged to request a meeting with staff if they have questions or concerns. ● Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's classroom.
- Frequent surveys allow parents the opportunity to give the school feedback on an ongoing basis. ● Quarterly Coffee and Community Meetings allow for ongoing dialogue and program changes based on the needs and desires of the community, parents, and students.

Form # 05-17-057

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

### **Reservation of Funds**

The **Yupit School District** will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental and family engagement is spent. *(Only applicable to districts with an allocation of \$500,000 or more.)*

- Funds reserved under this section by the district agency shall be used to carry out activities and strategies consistent with the district's parent and family engagement policy, including not less than 1 of the following:
  - (i) Supporting schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for local educational agencies and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members.
  - (ii) Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at

school.

- (iii) Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members.
- (iv) Collaborating, or providing subgrants to schools to enable such schools to collaborate, with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
- (v) Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the local educational agency determines are appropriate and consistent with such agency's parent and family engagement policy.

Each site hosted an annual meeting. Parents, students, staff, and community members attended the meeting. A PowerPoint presentation outlined the Title I-A requirements, including information about supporting programs, family engagement opportunities, recruiting parents/guardians to participate on advisory boards, and describing funding from state and federal grants. 116 responses were provided for a survey distributed at the meeting.

At the October Community and Coffee event, parents, community, and students again have the opportunity to have input into how they would like to see funds spent and what engagement activities should take place. The School-Parent Compact has recognized the importance of students taking on leadership roles and taking responsibility for planning events that are meaningful to all students and their families. The Tukuksak school recognizes the careful thought and leadership of its student government and gives high priority to the body's recommendations and will present them both at community meetings and the monthly LASB meetings for consideration and approval.

Students and families that qualify for McKinney-Vento funds are included in decisions about how the funds should be spent. Qualifying students and families are individually asked what their needs are and the district does its best to meet these needs.

## Coordination

Tuluksak School will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Tuluksak School works with a variety of local agencies to meet the needs of students and parents in the community, some of these are:

- YKHC provides health information and care onsite to support parental support and student medical care
- Bethel Family Clinic works with parents and the school to provide annual sports physicals ● Tuluksak Native Community provides partnerships and mentoring to support student graduation success
- Suicide Prevention is Coordinated the Tribal association
- The school works with a variety of state agencies to support special education services to students

### **Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members**

Tuluksak School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents and family members with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Providing parents and family members materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the following:
  - The challenging State academic standards.
  - The State and local academic assessments.
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
  - How to monitor a child's progress.
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Tuluksak school provides parents with progress reports or report cards four times a semester. Parents are invited in for individual conferences at least once a semester to discuss their student's progress in the academic standards and their individual progress in those standards. During conferences, teachers will share benchmark scores with parents of students in grades 3-6.

Students in grade 3 will receive in-depth information on literacy support at home and information about their own child's literacy benchmark scores. Students in need of interventions will have individualized reading plans created, which will be provided to the parent. Students receiving interventions will be contacted with updated information up to 10 times per year on their child's progress.

Parents are invited to a Back to School Night annually to go over the curriculum the class will be using and address grade-level standards and expectations.

Parents are notified of after-school tutoring opportunities to support academics and growth.

An annual meeting addresses Title I, Part A funding and programs that it supports within the school, parent feedback is encouraged at this meeting.

Links to video clips of state assessments are shared with parents as are links to state assessment practice sites, so parents can see what their child's assessment will be like.

School Facebook posts showcase student learning and achievement and are available for the community to follow.

Students have a strong and functional student government that meets on a weekly basis. They listen to their fellow students and plan events and activities that are meaningful and engaging that also encourage learning and school attendance. The students seek to involve their family and community in events showcasing student learning as well as for fun.

### **Building Capacity of School Staff**

Tuluksak School will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.



Quarterly Coffee and Community meetings allow for school leaders to meet with parents and receive feedback on school communication and ways to make continual improvements. These meetings also allow for the creation of partnerships within the community so that communication about the school can be widely disseminated from many different agencies.

Elders and parents are sought out by teachers and administration to come into the school and classroom as teachers of culture and community values. The school has adopted Yupik traditional values and relies on the community to help the students and staff integrate these values into daily practice.

Travel for 1 student and 1 parent from each site to attend 3-day YSD Strategic Planning meeting in ANC, including airfare and hotel. Travel to ANC is necessary due to the lack of lodging in any of the villages. The trip also coincided with the AASB Fly-in with Superintendents and School Boards.

Tuluksak School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request.

Quarterly meetings allow parents to share their ideas and needs with administration and staff.

Monthly Local School Advisory Board Meetings give parents and the community an opportunity to set goals and track the progress of these goals on a monthly basis.

School administration and teachers are open to meet with any parent on an individual basis to listen to their needs and find ways to address them.

School leadership and staff meet monthly with student government to jointly plan and discuss events and the school missions which is also being created together with student input.

### **Building Capacity for Engagement – Optional**

**NOTE TO THE SCHOOL:** The school 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 involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESEA, as amended:

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each Title I, Part A school— 1□ may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;

2□ may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training; 3□ may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

4□ may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

5□ may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;

6□ may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement; 7□ may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section; and

8□ may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

1. At least one parent from the community is invited to attend the annual beginning of the year teacher inservice event.
2. Literacy intervention program training is provided to the school literacy specialist to enhance reading instruction, this includes but is not limited to Heggerty Phonics and Phonics for Reading,
3. Parents and students are encouraged to attend events that help educate parents on the current curriculum and provide tips on providing literacy and math support at home to their students. 4. Coffee and Community Meeting empower parents to invite and encourage other parents to attend meetings and get involved with the school.
5. The school holds events at different times of the day and during different times of the week to maximize the opportunity for more parents to attend. All events welcome the attendance of students or younger siblings.
6. The administration welcomes comments and suggestions on at least a quarterly basis on the best way to communicate with parents and the community.
7. The district is inviting parents from the Tuluksak School to be part of the Immersion Instruction Advisory Committee, parent input will be used to build and strengthen the program.
8. The Tuluksak School has a variety of community partners that provide ongoing support to the school, to include; YKHC, TNC, Bethel Family Clinic, and Alaska Fish and Game.

This school parent and family member engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by community meetings and involvement.

This policy was adopted by the Tuluksak School on October 19, 2023 and will be in effect for the period of the 2023/2024. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before 12/30/2023.

Printed Name of Principal: Kary DelSignore Kary DelSignore

Signature of Principal: Date: October 19, 2023 Kary DelSignore