



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

Bethune Elementary School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Year 2026-27

Revision Date: 9/14/26

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Bethune Elementary School 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) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Bethune Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

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) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA 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.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Bethune Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I 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.

Hold a meeting each Spring with families to discuss the development of the school wide plan, Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and School and Parent Compact.

This policy was jointly developed by school leadership and parents at the Spring Title I Family meeting on April 17, 2026

Host parent engagement workshops designed to engage parents in their children's education.

Parents and families can also provide feedback on parent engagement by completing the parent survey.

Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Bethune Elementary 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 program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

During the Annual Fall Title I Meeting, the principal or designee will share information about the requirements of Title I part A, parent rights to know, state and local assessments including the PSSAs, school curriculum, how to work with educators and to track student progress. In addition, the principal or designee will review the School Parent Compact and Parent and Family Engagement Policy with the parents and the community.

We will also provide documentation at the meeting in both English and Spanish.

*Back to School Night will be held in **September 17, 2026***

*The Fall Title I Meeting will be held on Back to School Night in **September 17, 2026***

Section C: COMMUNICATIONS

Bethune Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children with (1) Timely information about the Title I programs, (2) Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, (3) transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement and may use Title I funds and (4) 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.

Events and workshops will be listed on the school calendar and held at various times during the day and evening

The school website will be kept up to date

Host open houses

Host parent school selection meetings

Provide translated communication in appropriate and parent friendly language for our parents

Work with staff to provide academic support during meetings times

Use our parents surveys to confirm meeting times are accessible to them, for them, to attend

In the event that school is not physically in session due to COVID-19 Restrictions, all events and training will be done remotely.

Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Bethune Elementary 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 Spring Parent Title I meeting will focus on the joint development of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact.

*The **2027-2028** School-Parent Compact will be jointly developed at the Parent Meeting held on **April 2027**.*

Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Bethune Elementary School will take the following actions to 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 parent and family engagement is spent by:

*Winter Title Meeting to discuss budgetary decisions and to make a spending plan with direct parent input for parent involvement funds happened on TBA We also reviewed the components of our School Level Plan.
The Winter Title I meeting will be another opportunity to discuss this year's and next year's school budget and priorities, including the parent engagement set-aside funds.*

Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Bethune Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool 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:

*Hosting open houses for preschool programs.
Invite local Pre-Schools and Day Cares to attend our annual Building Bridges Transition Plan meeting.
Inviting preschool parents to serve on the school advisory council
Inviting preschool parents to workshops.*

Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

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

- Providing parents 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 achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

*Providing parents 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 achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
Materials and training/workshops (Parent Portal, Attendance Matters, Literacy/Math Workshops, etc.) to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement and, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
The challenging State's academic standards
The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
The requirements of Title I, Part A
How to monitor their child's progress
How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
Topics to be addressed at the Fall Annual Title I meeting include: Title I requirements, academic standards, assessments, working with educators, monitoring your child's progress, curriculum, the schoolwide plan and parent policies.
We host two meetings, one in the Fall and one in the Winter facilitated by our Family and Community Engagement Liaison to review two topics: Technology and Literacy training for parents.
In the event that school is not physically in session due to COVID-19 Restrictions, all events and training will be done remotely.*

Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Bethune Elementary School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other 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 school by:

<i>Offering mandatory professional development during a District PD day in the fall to teachers on how to engage parents. The results of parent surveys will be discussed at a staff meeting or professional development. Funding teacher attendance at parental engagement conferences. In the event that school is not physically in session due to COVID-19 Restrictions, all events and training will be done remotely.</i>				
Bethune Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:				
<i>SAC Team Membership Classroom volunteers Class trip chaperones</i>				
Principal's Signature				
<i>Dr. Michele L. Wilson, Interim Principal</i>				
Date Signed				
09/14/26				