

Morton Elementary

Title I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

School Year 22/23'

The staff at Morton Elementary believes parents play a vital role in the success of their child's education. Morton Elementary encourages all parents to be informed and to participate in decisions affecting the school and their children's education. To ensure parent and family engagement in the planning and implementation of the Title I program, the following activities will be implemented: Literacy Night, Informational sessions, and STEAM/Family Night.

COMMUNICATIONS

Morton Elementary will take the following actions to provide to families of participating children:

- Timely information about the Title I program.
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the families can understand.
- Parents will receive a paper copy of Morton Elementary Parent and Family Engagement Policy. A link to the document will be provided on our school's website.
- Monthly Newsletters, social media, and the all-call system will be utilized to inform families of upcoming events, meetings, and programs.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Morton Elementary staff members, parents and families will jointly develop a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy to be distributed annually to parents and families of all children. This document will be distributed to parents and families by being sent home with students this year and being part of the school handbook in subsequent years. It will be shared at intake meetings for new students. Review of the policy will occur annually at the Spring Meeting with opportunities for input at the school throughout the spring.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Morton Elementary School will take the following actions to involve families 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 families, 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.

Families will be involved in the development of Morton's parent and family engagement policy by:

- Inclusion on Morton Elementary Strategic Planning Team (SLT).
- Representing Morton Elementary on Onslow County's District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC).
- Providing home Literacy Checklists, Fall and Spring Parent Surveys.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

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

Morton Elementary School will hold an annual meeting during the fall Open House to:

- Inform parents and families about the school's facilities and its Title I Schoolwide designation.
- Inform families of the requirements of Title I and Morton Elementary participation.
- Provide parents/families with information regarding upcoming opportunities to participate in school and district events.
- Inform parents of Morton Elementary Reading Enrichment program, as well as provide sample instructional materials for parents to view.
- Distribute Title I, Your Child, and You informational booklet.
- Distribute parent resources with a variety of strategies that can be implemented at home.
- A video with the information shared at the annual meeting will be posted on Morton's website for parents who were unable to attend the face-to-face event.

COORDINATING AND INTEGRATING PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Morton Elementary coordinates our programs and activities with the following programs to support parent and family participation in the education of their children to include those with Limited English Proficiency and families of Students with Disabilities.

- Parents will be invited to participate on school committees.
- Exceptional Children's department provides Spanish versions of all forms and documents.
- Parent communication to ELL will be provided in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Opportunities for regular public meetings.
- Annual Fall Meeting and Annual Spring meetings will be held at Morton Elementary.

The Annual Spring Meeting will be held in conjunction with another family event.

- To evaluate and/or make improvements on current program or upcoming activities.
- To solicit input from parents and families in the design and implementation of the School Improvement Plan and Parent and Family Engagement Policy for the upcoming year.
- To share overall preliminary EOG results, if available, and alert parents and families that individual reports, if available, will be sent home at the end of year in report cards.

Regular Title I Parent Meetings:

Title I Parent Meetings will be held during the school year, usually at night, to provide continued information, support and resources for all parents and families. Examples include Literacy Night, Steam Night, Family Night and Informational Sessions focusing on how to support your child at home. Flexible times will be offered.

Parents and families will be strongly encouraged to attend other school events and conferences, volunteer in classroom activities, and observe in the Title I program.

Training Opportunities:

Training topics are determined by our need's assessment data and parent and family suggestions. Meetings will be scheduled on a regular basis.

- Events will each be held during the year between the Annual Fall Meeting and Annual Spring meeting dates to explain state standards in curriculum and recent assessments, provide strategies to improve student achievement, and explain ways to monitor student progress, such as weekly folders, progress reports, report cards, phone communication, and conferences.
- Parents and families will be notified in advance of the scheduled activities.
- Parents and families may request additional meetings with staff members to address questions or comments.
- Instructional plans and assessment information will also be communicated to parents and families through newsletters, weekly planners, and teacher websites.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

We will meet our goals of establishing liaisons and maintaining communication with other school programs and other related external agencies and organizations through collaboration and coordination with individuals in those groups and through the following actions:

- Notifying parents and families of assistance from outside agencies, such as food banks, Salvation Army, church programs for assistance, recreation/sports/arts opportunities, Boy and Girl Scouts, Toys for Tots, the public library and summer programs.
- Inviting participation by adults from the community into school assemblies and programs with notification via flyers and social media.
- Enabling distribution of food donated by local churches that fill backpacks.
- Supporting participation in school events sponsored by library/media center, art, music, and physical education teachers at our school.
- Hosting Clinical Teacher Interns and Clinical Nursing students from East Carolina University and The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, as available, in our classrooms and school to help prepare them as highly qualified teachers.
- Partnering with the 2nd Supply Battalion at Camp Lejeune as they have adopted Morton Elementary.
- Supporting the work of the Military Life Counselor.

Opportunities for LEP and SWD Parents

Once a need is identified, we will attempt to assist parents and families with limited English proficiency and parents and families with disabilities in the opportunity to participate in their children's educational curriculum and environment.

- Translators provided as needed.
- The EC Department provides Spanish versions of the Parents Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

COORDINATING AND INTEGRATING PARENT INVOLVEMENT

At Morton Elementary, we coordinate our programs and activities with the following staff and programs to support parent and family participation in the education of their children:

- Head Start, NC Pre-K.
- English Language Learners/EL District leaders.
- School nurse, counselor, military liaison, social worker.
- Parent Teacher Organization.
- Public preschool and middle school.
- Onslow County Schools/Preschool Information Transition Fair.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Morton Elementary will take the following actions to involve the families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- Sharing/approving the budget decisions through the Strategic Planning Team.
- Asking parents to provide input for workshops through a Fall Title I Parent Information Survey and as members of the Strategic Planning Team.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Morton Elementary will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

- Sending monthly schoolwide newsletters.
 - Holding parent conferences at least two times per year to assist in helping parents understand the state curriculum and monitor their child's progress.
 - Providing literature and strategies to help families work with their children at home.
 - Hosting a schoolwide Read Across America Week where we will offer reading strategies to parents and provide information on curriculum and standards.
 - Hosting a schoolwide STEAM Night.
 - Providing parents with information about the EOGs, and standards.
- Morton Elementary will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:
 - Offering parent and family engagement activities at flexible times.
 - Encouraging parents and families to attend other school events and conferences, volunteer in classrooms and observe in the Title I Program.