



Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies

2019 - 2020 School Family Engagement Policy



PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Consistent with section 1118, the school will work to ensure that the required school level family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118 of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Schools will notify parents of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1114(b) of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency (school district).
- The school 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 family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school will build its own and the parent's capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.
- The school will provide other reasonable support for family engagement activities under section 1118 of the ESEA as the parents may request.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of family engagement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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) *that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) *that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) *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;*
- (D) *the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school family engagement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA:
 - *Parent Louisiana Needs Assessment Survey April 2018*
 - *Parent School Climate Survey April 2019*
 - *Dads Club Board Meeting July 2019*
 - *PTO Board Meeting July 2019*
 - *Parent Involvement/Engagement Feedback Form August 2019*
 - *Parent Meetings September 2019*
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2. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - *Parent Louisiana Needs Assessment Survey April 2018*
 - *Parent School Climate Survey April 2019*
 - *Dads Club Board Meeting July 2019*
 - *PTO Board Meeting July 2019*
 - *Parent Involvement/Engagement Feedback Form August 2019*
 - *Parent Meetings September 2019*
3. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs. The school will convene the meeting at a time convenient for parents and will offer a flexible number of additional family engagement meetings, such as in the morning or evening, so that as many parents as possible are able to attend. The school will invite all parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs to this meeting, and will encourage them to attend, by:
 - *Sending flyers home in the orange communication folders*
 - *Posting to social media*
 - *Sending reminders via text messages and email*
4. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will provide parents of participating children information in a timely manner about Title I, Part A programs that includes a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet by:
 - *Posting a link to the JPPSS Teaching & Learning Department's website on the school's webpage.*
 - *Posting a link to the Louisiana Believes Website on the school's webpage.*
5. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will at the request of parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible by:
 - *Monthly Dads Club & PTO meetings*
 - *Parent Teacher Conference Days (November 11, 2019 & March 13, 2020)*
 - *Additional conferences upon request*
6. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will provide each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the State assessment in at least math, language arts and reading by:
 - *Sending home the student reports/scores August 2019*

- *Sending home the “PARENT GUIDE TO THE LEAP 2025 STUDENT REPORTS” with the scores*

7. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will take the following actions to provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in section 200.56 of the Title I Final Regulations (67 Fed. Reg. 71710, December 2, 2002) by:

- *Sending written notification inclusive of a plan of action*

8. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics by undertaking the actions described below:

- 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 Part A,
- how to monitor their child’s progress, and
- how to work with educators:
 - Parent LEAP Testing Night
 - Achieve 3000 Parent Workshop
 - Family STEM Night
 - *Parent Teacher Conference Days (November 11, 2019 & March 13, 2020)*
 - *Additional conferences upon request*
 - Parent resources posted on the school’s website
 - JCampus Workshop at the 1st PTO Meeting
 - Community Resources presentation at PTO Meetings

9. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** 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 family engagement, by:

- Open House (August 20, 2019)
- Parent resources posted on the school’s website
- JCampus Workshop at the 1st PTO Meeting
- Community Resources presentation at PTO Meetings
- Parent LEAP Testing Night
- Achieve 3000 Parent Workshop

10. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will, with the assistance of its 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:

- *PTO/Dads Club Meetings*
- *Advertising volunteer opportunities*
- *Including tips in the monthly newsletter*

11. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate 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, public preschool, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- *PTO/Dads Club Meetings*

- *Advertising volunteer opportunities*
- *Including tips in the monthly newsletter*

12. **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to 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:

- *Tuesday communication folders*
- *Social media postings*
- *Weekly memo*
- *Translated information/forms, upon request*

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- Arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, arrange meetings with parents who are unable to attend conferences at school in order to maximize family engagement and participation in their children’s education;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving family engagement;
- establishing a school parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in family engagement activities.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This School Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by sign in sheets for the Beginning of the Year Planning meetings (Dads Club & PTO), agendas, and parent surveys. Additionally, parents will be given the opportunity to provide feedback at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school term. After review of the feedback, suggested changes will be considered, and an updated policy will be posted to the school’s webpage under “Parent Resources”.

This policy was adopted by the **Gretna No. 2 Academy for Advanced Studies** on **August 1, 2019**, and will be in effect for 2018-2019 school term. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **August 9, 2019**.

Jamara L. Wana

(Signature of Authorized Official)

August 1, 2019

(Date)