**Heritage Academy**

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2022-2023

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Heritage Academy 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, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school’s expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental and family engagement activities.

Heritage Academy understands that parent and family engagement means the participation​

of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

* Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
* Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school
* Parents and families 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.

Heritage Academy agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA​ Section 1116:

# A. MEETINGS FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Heritage Academy will hold at least two meetings for parents during each school year. The​ first meeting will inform parents of the Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact. All meetings will be offered at convenient times for families, such as meetings in the morning or evening.

# B. COMMUNICATION

Heritage Academy will provide parents timely information about student progress and​ opportunities for extended learning through various forms of communication. Newsletters, phone calls, letters and the use of school-parent phone apps will be used to establish and maintain an open line of communication. Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, will be 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.

C. EVALUATION PROCESS

Heritage Academy will ask parents to submit any comments/concerns and complete an​

annual survey to help evaluate the program and offer suggestions for program involvement.

Any comments/concerns can be emailed to Kimberly M. Walker @ ​kwalker@heritageacademy.net.

# D. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Heritage Academy will jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how​ families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state’s high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated.

The plan will be posted to the school’s website.

# E. BUILD CAPACITY FOR INVOLEMENT

Heritage Academy will build the parents’ capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure​ effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

* 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 parental involvement
* Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

o the State’s academic content standards, o the State’s student academic achievement standards,

o the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, o the requirements of Title I, Part A,

o how to monitor their child’s progress, and o how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

* Educate school personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of the 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.

# F. ACCESSIBILITY

Heritage Academy in carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this​ part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities, for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with 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 1116 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.