

Joseph Neal STEAM Academy Parent and Family Engagement Policy

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

This plan has been jointly developed and agreed upon by parents and the staff of Joseph Neal STEAM Academy. This plan will be reviewed and evaluated annually at the Annual Title I Parent Involvement and the Title I Parent Informational Meeting, April of 2023. Young children are welcome at every meeting and if the need arises, the possibility of transportation or home visits may be able to be arranged. Neal's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, developed by parents and staff, will be distributed in an understandable and uniform format in a language parents can understand. It will also be posted on the Neal website and be available in both English and Spanish.

COVID 19 AND SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS 2022-2023

Circumstances regarding COVID-19 are fluid and social distancing protocols and other health and safety requirements are subject to change based on the advice of public health officials, including the State's Chief Medical Officer. Therefore, as described in the Framework for a Safe, Efficient, and Equitable Return to School Buildings, our district and school have created reopening plans to address multiple potential reopening scenarios, including full-time distance education for all students, in-person instruction following social distancing protocols, and hybrid learning; in adherence with emergency directives, public health protocols, and NDE guidance throughout the 2022-23 school year.

DISTRICT WIDE PARENT SURVEY

Every year parents are strongly encouraged to participate in the District-wide parent survey. The results will be shared with the Neal community during the Annual Title I Parent Involvement Meeting. The majority of the 2022 results for Neal showed favorable responses. The results of the survey are also posted on the Neal website as part of this document. Results are used to help develop the Parent and Family Engagement policy at Neal Elementary School. In conjunction with parent evaluations, we will be working with FACES (Family and Community Engagement Services) in order to provide virtual and digital support and training to our families. In order to increase participation in the parent survey. We will send reminders on Parentlink and will also post the parent survey link on our Facebook page and have each teacher add the link to Class Dojo and newsletters.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PLAN

We encourage and ask for parent participation on our community involvement committee. We invite parent representatives to participate in creating our School Performance Plan. These parents participate in planning sessions, data inquiry review, action step development, and act as liaisons to help reach other parents at the school. Parents participate in Parent/Teacher conferences to review progress towards state and federal education goals. Monthly parent meetings enable them to further develop their ability to help their children meet state and federal goals. The Neal campus has open communication between parents, staff, and administration.

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EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT ACCORD

The Educational Involvement Accords are integrated into the registration process through Infinite Campus. Parents must review the Accord prior to completing their child's registration. Administrators and teachers will have access to the Accords when needed for parent/student conferences or other occasions. Teachers will refer to these accords as the need arises throughout the year.

IMPROVE STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

A. ASSISTING PARENTS IN UNDERSTANDING STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

Assistance is provided at any time to parents in understanding the State's academic content standards, the State's student academic achievement standards, the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, and the State's proficiency level targets. Parents are also provided with the Nevada Department of Education website; there is a link to this website on the Neal website under Title 1 to assist in the location of Nevada academic content standards. Administration, staff, and teachers answer questions concerning the standards, the school's curriculum, as well as share data that identify their child's current progress towards the standards. Neal is committed to assisting parents in interpreting the data received from the District and the State Department of Education. Parents are encouraged to use Infinite Campus to monitor their child's progress. Parent meetings are when many parent questions and concerns are addressed. During these parent meetings, we also provide strategies to assist parents in how to work and communicate with their child's teacher.

B. PROVIDE PARENTS MATERIALS AND TRAINING

Parents will be provided with materials and training to assist their students during planned parent meetings. Neal Elementary School is also working with the ELLP Parent Involvement Program and Family and Community Engagement Services (FACES) to provide training relevant to the needs of our parents.

C. EDUCATE TEACHERS ON PARENT INVOLVEMENT

With the input of Neal parents, strategies and training are provided to the Neal staff on how to reach out, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners. Neal will offer training for teachers periodically in order to support the Neal philosophy of parent involvement. This includes training on how to hold productive conferences with parents and stresses the importance of good communication. Neal also holds Professional Learning Meetings to assist with teacher understanding of important community issues. Neal is committed to building ties between parents, the community and school.

Neal will make every effort to ensure that information is shared with the parents and community in an understandable format and in a language that parents can understand. Neal will provide newsletters, school notices, and report cards in both English and Spanish. Neal will provide links to important documents and information in both English and Spanish. Alternative formats of communication may be provided upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

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D. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

Efforts will be made by the school to coordinate and integrate parent involvement activities within the community. Community resources are shared with parents during the parent meetings. Parents will be informed regarding the Three Square program, Title 1 Hope, School bell, Spread the Word Nevada, 21st Century Kids. They are also provided with information about free tutoring programs, food pantries, and the free programs offered by Parenting Project. These programs will be coordinated together to provide parents the best opportunities for themselves and their children.

E. SUPPORT PARENT REQUESTS

Neal will continue to provide parents with opportunities to voice their needs. Regularly held meetings will be advertised and communicated through notices sent home and with messages on ParentLink in order to encourage involvement and improve coordination efforts. We review the results of parent evaluations to ensure that we are addressing the needs of our families. Joseph Neal STEAM Academy is committed to providing parents with the resources necessary to support their child's success inside and outside the classroom.

