



Katherine Finchy Elementary School

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PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Title I, Part A School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024

Katherine Finchy Elementary is committed to providing a safe, effective, and orderly environment for all of its staff, parents, and students. Our entire staff at Katherine Finchy Elementary firmly believes that all students can learn when given the opportunity and time to be successful. Katherine Finchy Elementary provides instruction and materials complying with district/state guidelines and requirements.

Katherine Finchy Elementary has developed a written Title I Parental Engagement Policy with input from Title I parents. Katherine Finchy Elementary developed this policy jointly with parents by first helping parents understand some of their Title I rights, such as: their right to monitor their students' progress, their right to work with our teachers to improve the performance of their children, and provided information to these parents on how they could best participate in decisions relating to the improvement of their children's education.

It has distributed the policy to parents of Title I students. Katherine Finchy Elementary distributed the policy through varied forms such as at the Annual Title I meeting, through handouts given to students to take home, and at various school functions and meetings throughout the school year. The policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I Parent Engagement requirements [20 USC 6318 Section 1118(a)-(f) inclusive].

Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents in the Title I, Part A programs, the following practices have been established:

The school convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program. Katherine Finchy Elementary also informs parents of their right to be involved in the Title I program, its planning, improvement, and reviews during and not limited to:

- o Katherine Finchy Elementary School Site Council meets regularly to monitor programs at Katherine Finchy Elementary including the Parental Engagement Policy. The role of the council is to jointly develop the Parental Engagement Policy, monitor current programs and evaluate their effectiveness, and expand and/or modify program strategies and components as necessary.
- o Parents have input regarding how Title I budgets are spent at SSC meetings regularly throughout the school year. During these meetings Katherine Finchy Elementary School Plan for Student Achievement is reviewed and modified.

The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents. In addition to the Title I parent meetings, all parents are invited to SSC and ELAC meetings which are held throughout the school year.

- o Communication methods such as notices, robo calls, and Peachjar flyers are used to communicate meeting dates.

Katherine Finchy Elementary provides parents of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

- o School Site Council Meetings
- o English Language Advisory Committee Meetings
- o Curricular-focused parent workshops
- o Award assemblies
- o Student Study Team meetings
- o District-sponsored parent events through the Parent Center
- o IEP Meetings

The school provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs.

- o Parents are sent written notices regarding upcoming meetings. Robocalls and Peachjar are also used to notify parents.
- o Agenda topics include:
 - Explanation of the Title I program
 - Discussion of ways parents can be involved at the school
 - Review of Parental Engagement Policy and the school-parent-student compact
 - Description of the PSUSD Title I written complaint policy for parents

If requested by parents of Title I students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

- o Input from Title I parent surveys are used to determine workshop topics
- o All SSC and ELAC meetings have a public hearing section where parents and community members can state their concerns

School-Parent Compact

Katherine Finchy Elementary distributes to parents of Title I students a school-parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- o The school's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- o The way parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- o The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities.
- o Parents have the opportunity to provide input regarding the compacts at Title I annual meetings as well as at SSC and ELAC meetings.
- o Parents are asked to discuss the compact with their children before each signs the compact.

Building Capacity for Involvement

Katherine Finchy Elementary engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices.

The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.

- o The school provides Title I parents assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.
 - Parent workshops and trainings are designed to assist parents in how to support their child's learning at home.
 - Academic content standards and assessments are discussed and reviewed at Back to School nights and at Parent-Teacher conferences held twice during the school year.

The school provides Title I parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement.

- o Parent workshops are developed to assist parents in understanding the expectations of their children at school.
- o Online programs are available for parents to work with their children at home.
- o Teachers send additional academic materials home according to what is needed.

With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and on how to work with parents as equal partners. The school coordinates and integrates the Title I parental engagement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

- o Regular parent workshops and events are scheduled throughout the school year.
- o Parent workshops are scheduled during the school day.
- o Parents are reminded of the supports available at the District Parent Center.

The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand.

- o Parents are notified of workshops and other programs and are encouraged to attend through flyers, robo calls, and Peachjar email in both English and Spanish.

The school provides support for parental engagement activities requested by Title I parents in the following manner:

- o Input from a variety of measures is used to tailor workshops and other programs.
- o Childcare is provided during parent workshops and programs to better facilitate parent attendance.

Accessibility

Katherine Finchy Elementary provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.

- o All notices regarding meetings, activities, conferences and events are sent in English and Spanish.
- o School notices and informational packets are sent home with parents regularly.