Wills Valley Elementary School 2025-26 Parent and Family Engagement Plan

1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% parent and family engagement set-aside, and the rights of parents involved.

At the beginning of each school year, Wills Valley Elementary invites all parents to attend it's annual Title I meeting. The meeting consists of a presentation which includes an explanation of the school's Title I program and services, parents' rights, the 1% set aside and a general overview of the school's curriculum. Invitations to the meeting are announced through various platforms including sending a paper copy home with each student, social media posts, and individual cell phone text to each parent. All notifications are sent in English and Spanish in order to reach all parents. Parents are encouraged to ask questions and are given contact information for the system-wide parent involvement specialist

2a. Describe how there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

Parents are given the opportunity to attend a variety of parental involvement activities throughout the school year. Delivery methods of activities and meetings include in person, through phone calls, and virtually. Realizing that parents have differing work schedules, activities and meetings are held at various times of the day, including morning, afternoon, and evening so that more opportunities are available. In addition, parent meetings are conducted in English and Spanish in order to accommodate the diverse population served at Wills Valley Elementary.

2b. Describe how parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program.

Wills Valley Elementary School implements processes to ensure parental involvement in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program. A minimum of four parents serve on the CIP (Continuous Improvement Plan) team each year. These parents are involved in the development of the plan as well as the review of the plan throughout the school year through updates and meetings help with the CIP team as a whole. Along with these parents, two community leaders serve on the team. All parents are involved through the administration of parent surveys each year. Through these surveys, parents are able to provide input concerning parental activities, training, and materials for the upcoming school year. Survey results are used when reviewing and updating the plan. The plan is posted on the school website. Wills Valley Elementary has created a culture which encourages and validates parental input in all aspects of the school program.

2c. Describe how funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school.

Parental involvement funds allocated for Wills Valley Elementary School are used to fund a portion of the cost to employ a parent involvement specialist at the district level. Remaining funds are used to provide materials and supplies (paper for important announcements and student take home activities/communication folders) to support the engagement of parents in the school program.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

At the annual parent meeting, Wills Valley Elementary will hold a general session where information will be presented about the Title I programs, the curriculum, and forms of academic assessments used. Parents will participate with their children in a variety of activities throughout the building, including visiting their child's classroom. Teachers will provide additional information to parents on the big topics covered in math and reading in each grade and how they can help their child at home. Parents will be informed on the process for scheduling parent conferences, and how they can participate in decisions related to the education of their child. Teachers, guidance counselors, interventionists, social workers and other educational partners provide brochures and handouts to parents explaining more detailed information on school topics such as weekly guidance lessons, PAWS-itive Behavior Program, mental health services, ARI reading supports, interactive math activities for home, and how to help your child with reading. To ensure parents are informed of curriculum used and web-based programs, a list of all resources is accessible on the school and district website. Parents may also request a list of all books, resources, or curriculum used in their child's classroom. Wills Valley Elementary presently has approximately 300 children in K-2 that have non-English speaking parents. Interpreters are available to communicate with parents, as needed. In addition, documents are provided in Spanish.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated).

Wills Valley Elementary School reviews/revises the School-Parent Compact based on the input from the members of the ACIP leadership team. This is done annually during the Federal Programs Advisory Council meeting held in May. Additional data is also reviewed, such as survey data and needs assessments. This meeting includes teachers, parents, community leaders and administrators. All parents are given a copy of the compact at parent orientation. The compact is explained to the parents, and they are asked to sign the compacts signifying their commitment to working in partnership with the school and their child to ensure that their child is successful in school. The purpose of the compacts are explained to the faculty during the first faculty meeting and each teacher will be given the responsibility to explain the compact to the students and obtain the student's signatures. The teachers will also sign the compacts and keep them in the classroom for use during parent-teacher conferences. The compacts will be returned to the principal at the end of the school year and will be kept on file for five years.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan.

If a parent finds the plan to be unsatisfactory, they have the right to submit their concerns in writing to the school and set up a meeting with the principal to asks questions and share their concerns. If they are not content with the explanation and still have concerns, the principal will submit a copy of the parent's concerns to the Superintendent's Office along with a copy of the ACIP for review.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children.

Wills Valley Elementary School will accomplish much of this through its parent engagement events held in the Fall and Spring of each year and through Parent Conference Month held in October. During this time, parents will receive an overview of standards and expectations. They will also receive resources and information to assist them in helping their child succeed. In addition, an explanation will be given regarding Title I, what services will be offered, and how parents have the right to be involved in their child's education. Parents will also be given the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher and learn more about individual class assessments and what their role will be in helping their child succeed. The school library will include a section of books that are specifically for parents. It will include resources that will assist them in learning more about helping their child be successful in school. School social workers also provide additional support services and parent groups.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children.

Wills Valley administration will stress the importance of parent and school partnerships and provide opportunities to interact with staff and teachers by attending annual Title I Parent Involvement Night Presentations, annual Back to School Open House, parent-teacher conferences, curriculum nights, serving on school leadership teams, volunteering at PTO events, and attending academic, sports, and community-wide programs held at the school. Administration will plan events during and after school to meet the needs of all families and parents. School personnel will be encouraged to contact parents via phone at the start of each school year to make positive contact and show parents they are valuable, equal partners in their child' education. Administration stresses the importance of family involvement and support during school-wide events and assemblies and thanks parents for their active participation in educating their child. Administration works with district Parent Involvement Specialist to implement book studies, parent trainings involving curriculum and technology based upon parent survey results. A team of parents has been developed at the district level to provide a deeper parent perspective to school personnel.

Wills Valley Elementary School ACIP Leadership Team works diligently to ensure that all parent information and training is closely aligned with the school's identified goals. Since our ACIP Leadership Team identified academic achievement, attendance, and social emotional learning and support for students and families as areas for focus and growth, the school will hold parental involvement meetings on these topics and provide parents with related materials. In addition, additional resources are provided by other departments throughout the school such as guidance, mental health, library, STEAM, PE, reading and math intervention, and art. Technology support is also offered to assist parents with accessing the parent communication app, Parent Square.

6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children.

Wills Valley will continue to work with its teachers through in-services, faculty meetings, common planning meetings, data meetings and grade level meetings to give them a better understanding of the importance of parental involvement and how parents are partners in education. The principal will work closely with lead teachers, parental involvement coordinator, and parents to create parental involvement activities that meet the students' educational needs and support the parents need to be involved and equipped with resources to assist their child. Teachers and guidance counselors will provide weekly and monthly parent helper letters to inform families of the topics and objectives covered during core content instruction and during monthly whole group guidance lessons. Teachers will use Parent Square and Seesaw to keep parents informed of their child's academic, social, and behavioral progress along with school and classroom activities.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children.

Administration and parent involvement specialist meet regularly to discuss programs and opportunities to engage all parents in participating in their child's education. Administrators have an open-door policy that provides parents the opportunity to communicate their concerns and needs regarding curriculum, instruction, and student achievement and behavior/social emotional learning. Surveys are sent to parents inquiring what supports they might need to help them assist their students with academic content. Activities are aligned to the academic, social, and emotional goals of our students. All information regarding school events, meetings, conferences are sent to parents in their native language to the extent practical and all meetings/programs are presented in English and Spanish when possible. Wills Valley Elementary School strives to coordinate and implement parent involvement programs that reach the needs of all parents. Two bilingual translators are on campus full time as well as a full-time bilingual classroom teacher. Meetings and training sessions are translated for parents, as needed. The parent involvement specialist meets regularly with stakeholders to maximize the benefits of all parent involvement activities and to ensure that all activities are aligned with the ACIP goals.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children.

Wills Valley Elementary makes every effort to work with parents in meeting their requests as related to their involvement rights in their children's education. Once we get the results from Title I parent surveys sent out at the end of the school year (engagement, climate, and culture) we address the needs and concerns to the best of our ability by implementing trainings, curriculum nights, community events, and support services based upon the feedback. The parent involvement specialist will work closely with administration to provide training opportunities during school hours and after school hours as needed to increase parent participation in student achievement and learning.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents and family members.

Wills Valley Elementary School, to the extent practicable, provides opportunities for the participation of parents of limited English proficiency and parents with disabilities. This school year, Wills Valley has approximately 200 Hispanic students that require English as a second language support and language acquisition programs. Many of these students' parents speak a dialect or Spanish, so all parent notifications are sent out in Spanish and English. In addition, there is one bilingual teacher, one bilingual aide, and a bilingual school secretary, and two bilingual general education teachers that are present during all open meetings or during the school day that can assist in communication between teachers and parents. Every effort is made for parents with disabilities to gain quick and ease of access to the building. All entries are handicapped accessible for students and parents.

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