



## Shippensburg Area School District

317 North Morris Street  
Shippensburg, PA 17257  
717-530-2700

### Title I Reading Program District Parent Involvement Policy – Nancy Grayson Elementary 2018-2019

#### **VISION:**

Nancy Grayson Elementary School is a nurturing educational community dedicated to preparing students for higher levels of thinking, learning, and social interactions. The staff recognizes that family and school engagement is the foundation for student success in preparing our students for higher levels of thinking, learning, and social interactions.

#### **PURPOSE:**

Nancy Grayson Elementary School staff acknowledge that families and schools have vital roles in ensuring that a child's development and education is a shared partnership that requires a collaborative effort. Each partner has the responsibility to be knowledgeable and to foster a climate of respect and cooperation for the benefit of all students.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

*Parent/Guardian*– The term “parent/guardian” refers to the legal guardian or other person standing in “loco parentis” such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare. The terms parent/guardian and family may be used interchangeably throughout these documents.

*School*– Nancy Grayson Elementary School is one of six schools in the Shippensburg Area School District, comprised of students living within the boundaries of the Shippensburg Area School District.

*Staff*- The term “staff” refers to all employees (professional and support) working at Nancy Grayson Elementary School in the Shippensburg Area School District (Shippensburg, PA).

**FAMILY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP:** Although parents/guardians/families may be diverse in culture, language, resources and needs, all share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. The Nancy Grayson Elementary School staff recognizes their responsibility to help eliminate barriers that impede family involvement and to create an environment supportive of comprehensive family involvement programs that have been developed in collaboration with parents/guardians. Therefore, this policy shall establish programs and practices that reflect the specific resources and needs of Nancy Grayson Elementary School students and their families.

**TITLE 1 Requirements:** Nancy Grayson Elementary School staff shall incorporate Title 1, Part A parent involvement requirements into this policy, programs and practices and

ensure that all parent/guardians are informed about the opportunity and expectation to participate in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. The district shall ensure that parents/guardians are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making, recommending allocation of resources, and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child, and that of all the students in the school.

**EXPECTATIONS:** Parents/guardians and family members shall be invited to actively participate in development of school board policies, strategic planning processes, school improvement plans, programs and services and the budgeting process.

Recommendations from Family/School Partnerships shall focus on improving student achievement for the entire school body, and may target specific student populations. Family/School Partnerships shall emphasize a strengths-based perspective that builds resiliency factors, and serves to leverage the resources and assets of family members, schools and communities to address needs and improve learning and achievement opportunities for all children.

- ❖ Parents will be invited to become involved in the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) for the school and be given information about the dates and times for the PTO meetings.

- ❖ Parents will receive notification of the annual Title 1 meeting to discuss the Title 1 program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved.

- ❖ Parent meetings, including parent conferences, will be held at different times during the day to accommodate as many parents' schedules as possible.

- ❖ Title 1 Parent Involvement funds will be distributed to each school each year, to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities as determined by the Title I Building Committee in the building. Those activities must be student achievement oriented, school-related, or parent training sessions.

- ❖ The Shippensburg Area School District is a district-wide Title 1 program. Nancy Grayson Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization will be given representation on the SASD district-wide Parent Advisory Council, which will be involved in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program plan for Title 1.

- ❖ Staff and parents will be included in the joint development of the School Improvement Plans under Section 1116, if identified for school improvement.

- ❖ Parents will be provided with a description and explanation of curriculum in use at the school, along with the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. This will be accomplished by:

Back to School Night – August 2018

Parent Conferences – November 2018

Parent Meeting - March 2019

Open communication with all staff and administrators

❖ Staff will offer parents an opportunity to participate in regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and the staff will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

❖ Staff will provide assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic content standards and student achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.

❖ A school-parent compact will be developed between parents and Nancy Grayson Elementary School staff that outlines how parents and the entire school staff will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.

❖ Staff will provide materials and training to parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training or use of technology, as appropriate.

**ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS:** Nancy Grayson Elementary School staff are committed to implementing the following elements of effective programs:

- ❖ Creating a welcoming, safe, accessible environment for students;
- ❖ Expanding parent, community, and school communication;
- ❖ Encouraging supportive home environments;
- ❖ Promoting and encouraging volunteer support from family and community;
- ❖ Facilitating learning opportunities outside of schools;
- ❖ Coordinating resources and services;
- ❖ Intensifying community engagement;
- ❖ Supporting youth development

**EVALUATION:** Parents/guardians/family members and staff will participate in evaluating the implementation and effect of this policy on student success. The evaluation will be used to improve and/or create practices to enhance parent involvement. This policy will be reviewed and/or revised as needed by a designated advisory group that involves families and school staff.

*Sue Martin*

Sue Martin - Principal