



PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon by Maine Arts Academy Head of School, Title 1 staff, Title 1 Coordinator and Maine Arts Academy Parents, which includes parents of children participating in the Title I program.

Maine Arts Academy agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Maine Arts Academy will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of Title I, Part A parents, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, Maine Arts Academy will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Consistent with section 1116, Maine Arts Academy will ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of ESSA section 1116 and include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with ESSA.

Maine Arts Academy will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents/guardians in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) that parents 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.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE MAINE ARTS ACADEMY WILL IMPLEMENT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Maine Arts Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its parental involvement plan under section 1116 of the ESSA:

- A Title I parent meeting will be held each fall. At this time the Title I staff and parents will work collaboratively to review/revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

and the School Parent Compact. At this meeting, parents will be asked to provide input and discuss any revisions to the School-Parent Compact and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

- In addition to the parent meeting, an additional annual meeting will be held with those parents that volunteered to be a member of Maine Arts Academy Parent Group. The purpose of this meeting will be for the Title I staff, and parents to work collaboratively to review/revise the Parent and Family Involvement Policy and the School-Parent Compact.

2. Maine Arts Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under ESSA:

- At the annual fall Title I parent meeting, Title I requirements and eligibility criteria will be explained by the Title I Staff. Opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions for school improvement will be provided and explored.

3. Maine Arts Academy will do the following in order to plan and implement effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Distribute to all parents a Needs Assessment/Parent Survey in the spring of each school year
- Hold an annual Title I parent meeting in November at which time parents will be offered a time to discuss their child's Title I program.
- Review results of the spring needs assessment/survey with changes made as necessary.
- Implement a "Technology Night" to provide all parents and families with information on NWEA assessments, Infinite Campus grading procedures and test preparation.
- Provide parents with information on accessing the Maine Arts Academy website
- Provide Title I parents with information regarding the Title I program and upcoming school events through Maine Arts Academy website, email and/ or regular mail.

4. At various times throughout the year the Title I staff will offer to meet with parents to discuss their child's Title I program and progress and to provide parents with information on ways to support their child at home.

5. Maine Arts Academy will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A school. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

The evaluation will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement.

6. A program evaluation form will be sent home to parents of Title I children in the spring of each year by the Title I Coordinator
- Results will be tabulated by the Title I Coordinator and reviewed by, the Title I Coordinator, Title I teacher, and the Maine Arts Academy Principal. Parent suggestions will then be shared at the Fall Title 1 Parent Meeting and be considered for programming revisions.

Maine Arts Academy will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

1. Maine Arts Academy will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school's Title I program in understanding topics such as the following:

- The Maine Learning Results
- The requirements of Title 1 Part A,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators

2. Maine Arts Academy will take the following actions to meet the above goals:

- School Newsletters and the Maine Arts Academy website will provide information of area trainings that would be of benefit to parents
- Teachers will provide information about state and local assessments and how to monitor a child's progress during Open House held at the beginning of each school year as well as at the Title 1 parent fall meeting.
- Grade reports will be distributed quarterly
- Every parent will be provided online access to monitor their child's classroom grades. Meetings will be scheduled at a variety of times to accommodate parent schedules and/or requests – during school hours, before or after school, evening. Phone conferences will be held with those parents who are unable to attend.
- The Title 1 teacher will participate in parent/teacher conferences for individual students.
- Free materials provided by the US Department of Education on various education topics will be available to parents at Open House, conferences and upon the request of a parent.
- Title 1 parents will have an opportunity to volunteer in their child's classroom and for other school activities.
- Maine Arts Academy will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as using technology. Parents will be provided with Information Packets which include lists of appropriate educational websites.

3. Maine Arts Academy will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Discussing parent-involvement activities at faculty meetings
- Participating in local parent involvement trainings when available
- Discussing parent surveys and suggestions at the spring Maine Arts Academy Parent Group meeting to improve communication between parents and teachers.

4. Maine Arts Academy will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating Title 1 children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

- The Title I staff will relate all information about Title I program, meetings, and other information to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format. Meeting notices will be sent out at least ten days prior to the event. Alternative forms, when requested, will be provided.

ADOPTION

Maine Arts Academy Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on by, parents of children attending MeAA including parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. An opportunity to review this policy was provided to MeAA parents at November 2019 parent conferences and the Fall Title 1 Open House. This policy was adopted by the Maine Arts Academy and will be in effect for the 2019-20 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children.

Wendy Betts
Title 1 Coordinator

Dear Maine Arts Academy Families,

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) mandates that all states and school units provide an annual report card that shares the achievement and progress of students and schools as well as information about graduation rates and the qualification of teachers in the school unit. The data gleaned from the report card serves to inform school and district improvement initiatives. In addition, the data can assist parents and community members in working effectively and productively with educators to support student achievement.

The 2017-2018 report card also includes 2016-2017 Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) participation rates for students with limited English proficiency and students with disabilities. We have provided a link to the full report card at this address: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/dashboard>

Thank you for your continued support of the Maine Arts Academy. We value the partnership between the schools and community. By continuing to work together in the best interests of our students, we can provide an excellent academic experience for your child.

If you have questions about the ESEA Report Card or the data presented, please contact the school office or Head of School.



School-Parent Compact

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The MeAA staff believes that you are an important part of your child's education and we value the support you give your child and our school. This school-parent compact is one part of our school's parent and family engagement policy. This compact was developed jointly with parents and identifies ways you and school staff can share the responsibility for supporting your child's learning.

Maine Arts Academy Responsibilities:

- We will provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the state academic achievement standards
- We will provide you with assistance in understanding Maine academic achievement standards and tests, how to track your child's progress, and how to establish a successful homework setting and routine

We will provide opportunities for regular communication between you and MeAA teachers through:

- parent-teacher conferences
- frequent reports about your child's progress,
- opportunities to talk with staff, volunteer in class, and observe classroom activities.

Parent's Responsibility:

- Ensure your student's regular school attendance
- Encourage your student to use positive school behavior
- Support the completion and correctness of homework
- Set limits on the amount of time your student spends in front of a screen such as a television, smartphone, or computer and encourage positive use of your student's additional time
- Volunteer in your student's school and classroom if time or schedule permits
- Attend parent-teacher conferences and when appropriate, participate in decisions about the education of your student

Please review this School-Parent Compact with your student.

Thank you for your support and involvement in your student's education. Please contact the person listed below for more information:

M. Heather King
MeAA Head of School
Email: hking@maineartsacademy.org
Telephone: 207-480-7917



Protection of Pupil Rights Annual Notice to Parents

Maine Arts Academy recognizes that student privacy is an important concern of parents and wishes to ensure that student privacy is protected pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). PPRA affords parents and students age eighteen (18) or older (“eligible students”) certain rights regarding this school district’s conduct of surveys, collection, and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. If the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education we must have your consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent
2. Mental and/or psychological problems of the student or student’s family
3. Sex behavior and/or attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, doctors, or minister
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

You must receive notice and have an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding
2. Any non-emergency, in-depth physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing, or to sell, or otherwise distribute the information to others.

You have the right to inspect, upon request and before administration or use

1. Protected information surveys of student
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

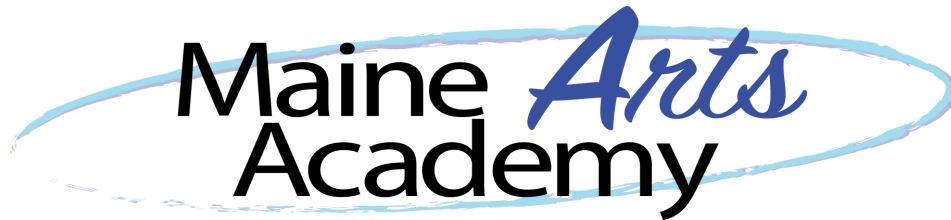
Maine Arts Academy has adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to and recognizing the importance of protecting student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Maine Arts Academy will notify parents of this policy annually, at the start of each school year, and after any substantive changes. Maine Arts Academy will also directly notify through the school district website, dates of specific surveys and activities and parents will be provided an opportunity to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys.

Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by United States Department of Education
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605



Accepting ESEA Title Program FY25 Application Comments

Maine Arts Academy (MEAA) accepts funding through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. As required by ESEA, the school must provide a reasonable opportunity for public comment on the application and consider comments prior to submission of the application.

MEAA's estimated ESEA funding allocation for the next school year (FY25) is:

Title I	\$67,617.42
Title II	\$11,462.51
Title IV	\$10,000.00

Throughout the year, the ESEA Application team members have gathered and reviewed school-level data to plan for the use of ESEA funds in the upcoming year. The team has also obtained input from students, families, school staff, and other community members through a variety of forums, including direct conversations, planning meetings, and written input to develop a plan for the use of Title I, Title IIA, and Title IV funding for the 2024-2025 school year.

Based on the information received, the application team identified the following priorities:

1. Title I - Student instructional support in all subjects, with a special emphasis on reading and mathematics. Support may include one-to-one and small group tutoring, in-class, extended-day or summer school learning, or other methods.
2. Title II - Providing professional development opportunities for individual teachers and other school leaders to improve content knowledge, curriculum, classroom practice, and designing and implementing assessments based on learning standards.
3. Title IV - Providing students with learning opportunities that support a well-rounded education, and health and wellness instruction and activities.

We look forward to your input!

Please provide comments directly to the Head of School or by sharing your thoughts through this **survey form** by typing the following information into your browser search function:

<https://forms.gle/gLwD4fhkMPuzXgweA>

Heather King

Head of School