



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Delaware Military Academy receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The Delaware Military Academy agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning

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

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Delaware Military Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Delaware Military meets with parents annually to review the family engagement policy. During this annual meeting, parents are invited to attend and plan/review parent and family engagement programs.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Delaware Military Academy will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Delaware Military's Annual meeting to review the Title I grant is held in the Fall each year opportunities.

The Title I Coordinator meets with parents in an evening program (this year was done via ZOOM) to discuss the Title I program including:

- *Title I goals*
- *Title I spending for the upcoming year*
- *Rights of parents*
- *Parent Compact*
- *Discussion of Homeless and what it means and how we can help*

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



COMMUNICATIONS

Delaware Military Academy will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- *Weekly updates via email to all stakeholders from the Commandant to keep parents informed and to solicit parent contact*
 - *The Commandant sends a Commandant's Corner each Monday that keeps parents informed of school events and successes.*
 - *The Commandant's Corner is a vehicle to share parent involvement opportunities with parents*
- *Commandant's Alert system*
 - *This is a text based system that allows the Commandant to send quick reminders or emergency notifications that will immediately reach families via text.*
- *Regular feedback from all stakeholders*
 - *Open Door Policy – the DMA administrative team has an open-door policy that any parent or cadet can reach us and discuss any concerns that they may have.*
- *The Policy will be available for parents via the school webpage. The policy will also be available in Spanish.*

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Delaware Military Academy will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Delaware Military Academy meets annually in the fall to jointly review/revise the School-Parent Compact.

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Delaware Military Academy will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

The Delaware Military Academy works with several Federal, State, and local programs.

- *Coordinates supports with the State of Delaware for homeless students*
- *Work with local food pantries*
- *Services for academic tutoring and assessments*
- *Department of Social Services partnership*
- *Referrals for mental health services*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Delaware Military Academy will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

The Delaware Military academy hosts a variety of capacity building opportunities for parents. The programs include but are not limited to the following:

- *Monthly college Information Meetings*
- *Stand by Me programming to support college financial planning*

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



- *FAFSA document information sessions*
- *Academic Review Boards and parent partnerships*
- *Meet the Coaches Night*
- *Parent/Teacher conference nights(2x yearly)*
- *Regular parent communication*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Delaware Military Academy will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

Delaware Military Academy maintains a professional development plan that focuses on relevant topics to support teachers. Our professional development plan is reviewed and revised regularly based on input from our stakeholders, including but not limited to parental input. Parents are regularly invited into the building for Parent-Teacher meetings (several times monthly). The administration at DMA has an open-door policy and meetings are conducted in a manner where parents are viewed as equal partners.

Delaware Military Academy will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

Delaware Military Academy holds monthly

- College Planning information sessions
- Sports Booster Meetings
- Music Association Meetings

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.



Delaware Military Academy

2019 National Blue Ribbon School



DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

POLICY COMPONENT

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

LEADERSHIP • CITIZENSHIP • SCHOLARSHIP

112 Middleboro Road • Wilmington, DE 19804 • 302-998-0745 • 302-998-3521 Fax • www.demilacad.org

THE DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY, AGE, GENETIC INFORMATION, HOUSING/HOMELESS STATUS OR VETERAN STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT, OR ITS PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.