Policy Title: ***Parent and Family Engagement District-Wide Policy*** Code No. ***1003.2***

Parent and family engagement is an important component in a student's success in school. The board encourages parents and families to become involved in their child's education to ensure the child's academic success. In order to facilitate parent and family involvement, it is the goal of the district to conduct outreach and implement programs, activities and procedures to further involve parents and families with the academic success of their students. The board will:

(1) Involve parents and families in the development of the Title I plan, the process for school review of the plan and the process for improvement by:

- A jointly developed school/parent compact which outlines how parents, staff, and students share responsibility for student achievement.
- This is distributed to parents of Title I children upon entry to the program.
- Explanations of Title I requirements, standards, and assessments are provided during the annual meeting held in the fall, and/or
- Meetings with individual parents during Parent-Teacher and Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences.

(2) Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by:

- Providing information to parents about how to monitor the student's progress and assistance with being advocates for their children's education.
- Responding to requests from parents for assistance or for individual conferences.

(3) To the extent feasible, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under Title I with parent and family engagement strategies outlined in other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs by:

- Encouraging parents to volunteer in the school setting.
- Providing transitional information for parents of children moving from sixth to seventh grade is provided at our Elementary buildings each year.

(4) Conduct with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the school served including identifying: barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I activities (with particular attention to low-income parents, Limited English Proficient (LEP) parents, parents of any racial or ethnic minority, parents with disabilities and parents with limited literacy); needs of parents and family to assist their children's learning; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions by:

- Conducting an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of this parental involvement policy shall be conducted in the spring.
    - Parents of Title I students will be asked to recommend program adjustments.

(5) Use the findings of the annual evaluation to design strategies for more effective parent and family involvement and to revise, as necessary, the parent and family involvement policies by:

- Providing explanations of the school's performance profile, the forms of assessment used to measure all students' progress, and the expected proficiency levels are published in the Annual Progress and the Annual Yearly Progress Reports. These are distributed to all stakeholders and are released to the newspapers in the fall of the year. Also, an annual report is provided to the Board which is recorded and broadcast on local television.
    - Encouraging parents to call the school with questions or to communicate with the Title I teacher, and, if they need to use the voicemail, can expect to receive a timely response.

(6) Involve parents and families in Title I activities by:

- Providing all Cedar Falls Community Schools children with equal access to quality education is of primary concern and purpose. It is critical for all stakeholders in the district (students, parents, educators, and community members) to have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this goal. Developing effective partnerships among these groups will ensure maximum academic achievement for students.

The district shall involve parents in determining how to allocate reserved Title I funds in accordance with applicable laws.

The board will review this policy annually. The superintendent is responsible for notifying parents and families of this policy annually or within a reasonable time after it has been amended during the school year. The superintendent may develop an administrative process or procedures to implement this policy.

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