

2023-2024 EQUITY PLAN

LEAs that choose to accept Title I funding are required by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 to develop an equity plan to ensure that their poor and minority students in Title I schools are not being taught at a disproportionate rate by teachers who are ineffective, inexperienced, or who are teaching out of field.

Use your LEA 2022-23 school year data to develop a local equity plan that addresses the following four items:

1. Analyze how teachers are assigned to teach minority and poor students based on the following data; use the descriptions for important terms found on page three:

- School improvement status: TSI: additional targeted support and improvement or A-TSI – schools in which performance by one or more student groups is at or below the level of the CSI schools;
- School poverty percentage: 94%
- School minority percentage: 97%
 - Number and percentage of minority and poverty children taught by teachers who are appropriately certified: 87%
 - Number and percentage of minority and poverty children taught by teachers who are teaching out-of-field: 0%
 - Number and percentage of minority and poverty children taught by teachers who are new to the profession: 65%
 - Number and percentage of minority and poverty children taught by teachers who are not new to the profession: 35%
 - Number and percentage of minority and poverty children taught by teachers who are ineffective in their classroom performance: 0%

2. Identify schools where possible inequities exist based on minority or poverty status of students.

We have not identified any inequities. Class sizes are small, small group instruction happens daily for 100% of the students, 100% of students have a computer, all academic strategies are used in all academic settings (regular and special education), all students receive breakfast and lunch, all extended day programs are open to 100% of the students, and the staff is well versed on Restorative Practice and Social Emotional Learning. Both MTSS and Child Find are used to identify students needing additional assistance.

3. Brief description of strategies the LEA is implementing to ensure low-income and minority children enrolled in Title I schools are not served at disproportionate rates by ineffective, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers.

Benchmarking using DIBELS (ELA) and Exact Path (Reading, Writing and Math). Pre and Post testing is used in all classes, data team meetings are held to assess necessary academic adjustments, strategies such as CUBE, RACE, Pre-teaching, Summarizing, CFU's, tiered instruction, PSSA data, and classroom-based measurements are used in all classrooms to accommodate the diverse learning needs of students.

4. How will the LEA determine whether or not the strategies are effective in addressing disparities?

MTSS and Child Find are used to identify students in need of additional support. Benchmark assessments (DIBELS and Exact Path K-8) are used to monitor student progress towards the PDE/SAS benchmarks, professional development is provided for 10 days during the summer and a half day each month to ensure staff is supported on all practices. Data meetings are held weekly to monitor and support early learning of skills.

Laboratory Charter School (LCS) is dedicated to providing a nurturing and conducive learning environment for its students while fostering strong partnerships with parents. As an educational institution, it is crucial for LCS to have a Parent/Student

Handbook that complies with Pennsylvania School Law. This document aims to highlight the significance of adhering to these laws and regulations to ensure the well-being, rights, and educational success of both students and parents at LCS.

Legal Compliance:

The Pennsylvania School Law establishes the framework for the governance and operation of schools in the state. Adhering to these laws is not only a legal requirement but also ensures that LCS operates in a fair, transparent, and accountable manner. By having a Parent/Student Handbook that complies with Pennsylvania School Law, LCS can demonstrate its commitment to upholding the rights and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved.

Clarity and Consistency:

A compliant Parent/Student Handbook provides clear and consistent guidelines and policies for both parents and students. It outlines the rights, responsibilities, and expectations of all parties, promoting a sense of fairness and accountability within the school community. This clarity helps to avoid misunderstandings and potential conflicts, fostering a harmonious and productive learning environment.

Protection of Student Rights:

Pennsylvania School Law protects the rights of students, ensuring that they receive equal educational opportunities and fair treatment. By incorporating these rights into the Parent/Student Handbook, LCS can actively safeguard and promote the well-being of its students. This includes addressing issues such as disciplinary procedures, anti-bullying policies, attendance requirements, and special education services, among others.

Parental Engagement and Communication:

An effective Parent/Student Handbook compliant with Pennsylvania School Law encourages parental engagement and establishes open lines of communication between parents, students, and the school. It serves as a comprehensive resource that informs parents about their rights, responsibilities, and the school's educational approach. By fostering strong partnerships, LCS can create a supportive and collaborative environment that enhances the educational experience for students.

Liability and Risk Management:

A compliant Parent/Student Handbook plays a crucial role in mitigating potential legal risks for LCS. It outlines safety protocols, liability limitations, and procedures for incidents that may occur within the school premises or during school-sponsored activities. By ensuring that the handbook complies with Pennsylvania School Law, LCS can effectively manage risks and provide a safe learning environment for all students.

Adaptability and Accountability:

The legal requirements within the Parent/Student Handbook may be subject to changes and updates over time. By remaining compliant with Pennsylvania School Law, LCS demonstrates its commitment to adaptability and accountability. It shows that the school stays informed about current regulations and is proactive in aligning its policies and procedures accordingly.

Conclusion:

A Parent/Student Handbook compliant with Pennsylvania School Law is of utmost importance for Laboratory Charter School. It ensures legal compliance, promotes clarity and consistency, protects student rights, encourages parental engagement, manages liability, and fosters adaptability and accountability.