Funding ParentSquare

What is ESEA?

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA)

- ESEA outlines the use of federal education funding provided to the states.

- Each state and local school district creates plans around using these funds.

- The information on the following slides are excerpts from ESEA with *emphasis on areas where ParentSquare can be a support.*

- *Please check your own school district's plans for alignment as you look for funding sources.*

Title I Alignment

Title I: Improving The Academic Achievement of The Disadvantaged Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies

"The purpose of [this title](#) is to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps."

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT.

- "shall provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children"

USE OF FUNDS.

- "Supporting programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school.

- Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family

engagement, especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members."

HOW PARENTSQUARE SUPPORTS.

- Reaching out to and engaging with parents is central to ParentSquare's functionality

- Creating groups in order to disseminate information to a specific group of parents with information pertinent to their child is a specific area to highlight as a benefit to using ParentSquare

    - Example: use demographics or attributes to create groups such as Tier 2 MTSS, bus groups, particular grade, etc.

Title II Alignment

Title II Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High-Quality Teacher, Principals, or Other School Leaders Part A: Supporting Effective Instruction

"The purpose of this title is to provide grants to State educational agencies and subgrants to local educational agencies to—

- increase student achievement consistent with the challenging State academic standards;

- improve the quality and effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders;

- increase the number of teachers, principals, and other school leaders who are effective in improving student academic achievement in schools; and

- provide low-income and minority students greater access to effective teachers, principals, and other school leaders."

"IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency that receives a subgrant under section 2102 shall use the funds made available through the subgrant to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive programs and activities…"

"TYPES OF ACTIVITIES.—The programs and activities described in this subsection— Providing high-quality, personalized professional development that is evidence-based, to the extent the State (in consultation with local educational agencies in the State) determines that

such evidence is reasonably available, for teachers, instructional leadership teams, principals, or other school leaders, that is focused on improving teaching and student learning and achievement, including supporting efforts to train teachers, principals, or other school leaders to—

- .....effectively engage parents, families, and community partners, and coordinate services between school and community"

HOW PARENTSQUARE SUPPORTS.

- Consider using Title IIa to fund training on the use of ParentSquare for engaging with parents and families

Title III Alignment

Title III Language Instruction For English Learners And Immigrant Students Part A, Subpart 1—Grants and Subgrants for English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement

"The purposes of this part are—

- ......to promote parental, family, and community participation in language instruction educational programs for the parents, families, and communities of English learners."

"An eligible entity receiving funds under section 3114(a) shall use the funds— to provide and implement other effective activities and strategies that enhance or supplement language instruction educational programs for English learners, which—

.....shall include parent, family, and community engagement activities...."

HOW PARENTSQUARE SUPPORTS

Due to extensive language translation options, ParentSquare can promote parent and family participation by using communication in their own language

Title IV Alignment

Title IV 21st Century Schools Part A, Subpart 1: Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grants

"The purpose of [this subpart](link) is to improve students' academic achievement by increasing the capacity of States, local educational agencies, schools, and local communities to—

- provide all students with access to a well-rounded education;

- improve school conditions for student learning; and

- improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students."

"DIGITAL LEARNING.—The term "digital learning" means any instructional practice that effectively uses technology to strengthen a student's learning experience and encompasses a wide spectrum of tools and practices, including—

- the use of data and information to personalize learning and provide targeted supplementary instruction;
- learning environments that allow for rich collaboration and communication, which may include student collaboration with content experts and peers;"

HOW PARENTSQUARE SUPPORTS

- Reaching out to and engaging with parents is central to ParentSquare's functionality

- Creating groups in order to disseminate information to a specific group of parents with information pertinent to their child is a specific are to highlight as a benefit to using ParentSquare

  - Example: Create academic groups, such as Tier 2 MTSS, so that parents of those students can be sent resources specifically designed for supporting student learning of those Tier 2 students, and in turn encouraging two way communication with the parent about the student's needs.

IDEA: Individuals with Disabilities Act

The purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Program is to:

- Make grants to States educational agencies and subgrants to local educational agencies "to assist them to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities in accordance with this subchapter."

- Assure a "free and appropriate education" is provided to all students regardless of disability.

- Plan, develop and implement Individualized Educational Plans (IEP) for students with disabilities with the input and assistance of teachers, service providers, administrators, parents and other appropriate personnel.

Use of Funds

- Provide technical assistance and professional development to personnel to better support students with disabilities.

- Improve the use of technology in the classroom, in part, to serve the needs of students with disabilities and communicate effectively with all staff and parents relative to the progress toward meeting IEP goals and ongoing needs of students.

- Funds reserved under IDEA Subchapter IIb, Section 1411 subparagraph (A) may be used to support paperwork reduction activities, including expanding the use of technology in the IEP process.

HOW PARENTSQUARE SUPPORTS

Through the use of Secure Documents, school districts are able to send student Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to parents/guardians securely. This saves time and promotes the use of technology to share IEP progress with parents.

Chronic Absenteeism

Every state must create a plan as to how they will use Federal Funds, and chronic absenteeism is consistently part of every state plan. Here is a link to the ESSA Consolidated State Plans where you can access plan for your state. Some examples for Ohio, Arizona and Illinois are below.

Ohio | **Department of Education**

Ohio has selected chronic absenteeism as the state's measure of school quality or student success because there is a significant body of research around student attendance and the impact of chronic absenteeism on academic performance. Virtually every study identifies a strong relationship between student attendance and academic performance. Research supports that chronic absenteeism, defined as missing at least 10 percent of the instructional time for any reason, (excused or unexcused absences), is one of the primary causes of low academic achievement. It also is one of the strongest predictors that can be used to identify students who eventually will drop out.

Indicator	Measure(s)
School Quality or Student Success	School Quality and Success indicators for K-8 schools: Chronic absenteeism: students absent for 10% or more of the year (18+ days) • A school's current year chronic absenteeism percentage is less than the school's prior year chronic absenteeism percentage = 5 points • A school's current year and prior year chronic absenteeism percentage equals 0 = 5 points • A school's current year chronic absenteeism percentage is greater than the school's prior year chronic absenteeism percentage = 0 points School Quality and Success indicators for 9-12 schools: • Drop-out

Illinois State Board of Education

Student success/school quality indicators (support for): Chronic absenteeism, pre-K suspension/expulsion rates, preK-K attendance, K-2, extracurricular and out-of-school activities, teacher retention rates, after-school activity, overall school wellness and whole child wellness, Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) protocol with adjustments, work-based learning, socio emotional learning, and school climate.

Consolidated State Plans are where you can find your state's plan and how it is focusing funding on Chronic Absenteeism.

Next Steps

Check with your district Special Education, MTSS or curriculum, instruction, assessment leader for information on access to these Title funds in support of the district's Academic Achievement goals with ParentSquare

- Identify how the use of ParentSquare supports your school's improvement goals (which is supported by Title funds (ESEA))

Check with your Student Services leader about Chronic Absenteeism and how the use of ParentSquare can help

- Look at your state's Consolidated Plan for ESEA for references to supporting reduction of chronic absenteeism. If included, funding will be available to support measures to improve attendance.