

Universal Family Engagement for Student Success

Funding Sources

General Funds

State aid, local property tax levies, federal aid, and local fees are the major sources of revenue for the general fund. General funds are non-contingent on student or family qualification criteria. Universally designed student supports —intended to benefit all students—are strong candidates to become part of a general fund budget. As a proven student outcomes accelerator for all students, TalkingPoints advocates district-wide implementation to provide a consistent family experience and to maximize positive impact on students. General fund allocation can come from a district’s “sustained technology” category, effective Tier I interventions category, other or cross-departmental braided general fund dollars.

Phased Implementation: Beginning with Higher-Needs Students

Some school districts choose to phase in full district implementation of TalkingPoints for subsets of high-need student populations, using Title funds. More information can be found below about potential Title funding sources. It is important to note that services funded through Title funds must provide supplemental support for qualified students and cannot be used to supplant services provided to non-qualifying students.

In order to maximize positive student impact and mitigate unintended inequities from the use of Title funds, TalkingPoints advocates district-wide implementation using general funds.

Title I, Part A, Sec. 1116(e)(5)

Shall Communicate with parents about programs, meetings and other activities “in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.”

Title I, Part A, Section 1116-Parent and Family Engagement (d)(2)(D)

Ensure regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand

Title I, Direct Student Services, Sec. 1003A (c)

LEAs may use not more than 1 percent of its award for outreach and communication to parents about available direct student services

Title III, Part A, Subpart 1, Section 3116 Local Plans (b)(3)

Describe how the eligible entity will promote parent, family, and community engagement in the education of English learners

Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grant

Grants provide an additional resource to meet the needs of districts to close achievement gaps and can be applied in three broad areas: access to a well-rounded education, improving school conditions for learning to ensure safe and healthy students, effective use of technology to improve academic achievement and digital literacy.

TalkingPoints: Two-way translated text and app-based communication

1. Human- and AI-supported translation in **150 languages**
2. Families can click and **see a definition of school terminology** without leaving the app
3. Schools and districts can send families translated **audio and video messages**
4. Schools and districts can send families translated **audio and video messages**
5. Schools and districts can send families translated **audio and video messages**
6. Teachers receive embedded, in-the-moment **guidance to support best practices** in outreach
7. Busy families and those with limited literacy skills can use **text-to-speech and speech-to-text**