



2023-2024 TITLE I DISTRICT LEVEL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Calvert County Public Schools

WHAT IS TITLE I?

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is the largest federally funded education program that provides extra support to students who are academically at-risk in public and private schools. Through Title I, the government allocates funds to school districts around the country based on the number of low-income families in each district. Title I funds are designed to help close the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their peers. The purpose of Title I is to help ensure that all children can obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments.

CALVERT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) and the Board of Education recognize that families play an important role in their child's education as well as prepare them for academic achievement and life-long learning. Calvert County Public Schools funds each school above the 1% of the total Title I allocation that is required for family engagement.

PURPOSE OF THE DISTRICT LEVEL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The District Level Family Engagement Plan in Title I affirms the critical importance of the role of parents and caregivers in the education of Title I students. The District Level Plan is based on **Policy #8123 (Community- revised 10/10/19)** that are compatible with Title I requirements.

- To recognize that parents, caregivers and the community play an important role in the education and achievement of students; and encourage parental, caregiver, and community involvement through a variety of opportunities which providing the means to keep school safe, orderly, and focused on learning
- To ensure that all staff support families
- To encourage businesses and community organizations to engage with the district as advocates, allies, and partners to improve equity, access, and educational outcomes for all students
- To encourage an active volunteer program which enhances students' educational experiences and increased parental and community involvement
- To encourage community members to meet with the Board members to provide feedback on district initiatives outside of board meetings

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

To ensure that you are a partner in your child's education, CCPS Title I will:

- Help families understand State and local academic standards and assessments.
- Show families how to monitor their child's progress and work with teachers to improve their child's achievement.
- Ensure that Title I schools host family engagement events at various times and provide materials that will help families support their child at home.
- CCPS encourage families to volunteer and join organizations such as the PTO to be part of the school community.
- Coordinate family engagement efforts with local, state, and federal programs and community partners.

- Support and train principals, school staff, and families on how to plan and promote family engagement activities.
- Offer interpreting services, childcare, and transportation.
- Offers Title I documents in your native language- School Level Family Engagement Plan, Compact, District Level Family Engagement Plan and any other Title I documents used by Title I Schools or Calvert County Public Schools.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY AGENCIES

State and Federal partnerships such as the Judy Center, Head Start, Calvert County Public Library, HIPPIY/Healthy Families, Infants and Toddlers, and others are invited to all Title I family meetings and events.

VOLUNTEER IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Volunteers assist CCPS employees and supplement student services and learning opportunities. Volunteers are not paid staff members; however, they are expected to always follow CCPS policies, rules, and procedures. The CCPS Volunteer Handbook located on the *Become a Volunteer* webpage on the CCPS Website. The webpage provides pertinent information on the volunteer application, what training you need, CCPS guidelines and responsibilities, safety procedures and other helpful resources for volunteers.

Those interested in volunteering may visit the *Become a Volunteer* webpage at: [Become a Volunteer - Calvert County Public School District \(calvertnet.k12.md.us\)](http://Become a Volunteer - Calvert County Public School District (calvertnet.k12.md.us)) and complete the “Online Volunteer Application Process.”

For further information about the volunteer application process contact Valerie Trumbull at trumbullv@calvertnet.k12.md.us or at 443-550-8330.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Assistance is provided to parents and families about Maryland State and Calvert County Public Schools academic content standards, assessments, monitoring of student progress, and working with educators through:

- Academic information can be found on the Calvert County Public Schools website and also by contacting your child’s teacher or school administration.
- Interims and quarterly report cards.
- Parent conference as needed.
- Assisting parents with the use of Calvert County Public School’s online student grading system called Home Access Center (HAC).
- Calvert County Public Schools also provides assistance to families for accessing virtual curriculum platform (Schoology).
- Parents and students can access information and videos on the Calvert County Public Schools website to support their use of Calvert County Public Schools digital platforms.

DISTRICT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SCHOOL SUPPORTS

District level staff meetings are held monthly with Title I teachers. During these meetings, teachers are provided strategies for building their capacity with family engagement:

- Working with parents and family members as partners to support student achievement.
- Identify strategies to support successful school and family parent engagement.
- Create Title I Family Nights for parents and families to support student achievement.
- Develop effective communication strategies for parents and families to discuss the needs of their children.
- Help parents understand their child’s progress with meeting state and local academic standards.
- Help parents understand the value of family engagement between home and school.

Questions or Comments Please Contact:
Kara Scarda, Title I Teacher Specialist
scardak@calvertnet.k12.md
443-550-8015

Nondiscrimination Statement

Calvert County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ancestry or national origin, familial status, marital status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or genetic information in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

- Director of Student Services
- Director of Human Resources
443-550-8000

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <https://ocracas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.

Anti-sexual, Anti-racial and Anti-disability Harassment Statement

Discrimination can manifest itself in behaviors such as bullying, harassment, or intimidation of individuals.

Calvert County Public Schools does not tolerate any form of harassment including, but not limited to, sexual, racial, or disability. Any individual (student, employee, or community member) who believes that he or she has been subjected to any form of harassment is encouraged to report the allegation of harassment. Students, parents, and community members may report allegations of harassment to:

Celica Lewis, Director of Student Services, Calvert County Public Schools, 1305 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Employees may report allegations of harassment to: Mr. Zachary Seawell, Director of Human Resources, Calvert County Public Schools, 1305 Dares Beach Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Calvert County Public Schools is committed to conducting a prompt investigation for any allegation of harassment. If harassment has occurred, the individual will be disciplined promptly. Disciplinary actions for students found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary actions for employees found to have engaged in any form of harassment may result in suspension or termination.

Calvert County Public Schools encourages all students, parents, employees, and community members to work together to prevent any form of harassment.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Assessment System at: <https://ocracas.ed.gov> or call 1-800-421-3481.

Calvert County Public Schools Antiracism Statement

Calvert County Public Schools explicitly denounces racism, bullying, discrimination, white supremacy, hate, and racial inequity in any form within our school community.

Furthermore, CCPS will not tolerate the values, structures, and behaviors that perpetuate systemic racism.

Each member of the district, individually and collectively, is responsible for creating and nurturing a safe, antiracist learning environment where each student, staff member, and community partner is a respected and valued member of the CCPS community.