

Title I Parent Involvement Plan
Emanuel County Institute

(Revised August 2021)

The Emanuel County Institute community recognizes the importance of parent involvement to help students reach individual goals for success. We recognize that parents are their children's primary teachers, and their support is critical in our efforts to provide a quality education for the children at Emanuel County Institute. In our efforts to improve student achievement, Emanuel County Institute has established objectives and will implement strategies to enhance parent and community involvement in our school. The faculty and staff will complete training presented by the Georgia Department of Education on effective ways to communicate with parents.

Emanuel County Institute has an open-door policy that encourages parents and house parents of students in residential facilities in the school's attendance area (Herrington Homestead) to visit the school. Our parent involvement meetings are designed to provide parents with resources and materials they need to become more effective and more actively involved in their children's education. We will continue to provide our parents and community with various forms of communication, including parent/student handbooks, the school website, newsletters, monthly calendars of events, flyers, telephone calls, emails, and newspaper articles. ECI also communicates with stakeholders through social media (Facebook and Twitter). Parent-teacher conference evenings and open house events scheduled throughout the school year will provide additional opportunities for communication and collaboration. In addition, information about student academic performance and attendance is available through the district's Parent Portal.

Two formal evening meetings will be conducted yearly to include parents in the planning process for the school program and the revision of the school-student-parent compact. The initial meeting will serve to inform parents of the school's Title I Plan, its requirements, and their right to be involved in the program. The school compact will also be reviewed at this meeting. Parent conference evenings will be conducted each school year for teachers to inform parents of their children's progress and the plans for intervention as needed. Emanuel County Institute will assist parents in understanding the state's academic content standards as set by the Georgia Department of Education. Information on state and local assessments used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels at which students are to perform will be shared with parents. Title I funds will be provided for transportation, childcare, and home visits as needed.

Parents of high school students that are having academic or other difficulties that may keep them from graduating in a timely manner will be encouraged to participate in graduation team meetings. Our administrative team has set specific goals for the 2021-2022 school term to address issues related to ensuring effective communication with our parents.

The school community will include a Parent Resource Center strategically located to facilitate parent and community involvement in the school program. The Parent Resource Center will

provide parents with information, materials, resources, and training in order for them to help their children achieve academic success. Literacy and technology training will be provided, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement and increase student achievement. Surveys that allow parents to identify the programs and activities they feel most useful to them will be given to parents for completion so that their ideas and needs are considered in the annual programming. Through scheduled meetings, the center will provide the opportunity for parents to volunteer and participate in the decision making process by offering suggestions and receiving timely feedback to their suggestions.

A Parent Involvement Advisory Council, made up of parents and educators, is in place at the system level. This council involves parents in the planning, review and improvement of programs for Title I in an organized, ongoing, and timely fashion. Parent newsletters and school event calendars will be sent home monthly. This newsletter will be used to highlight student achievement, interpret assessment results, and monitor the progression of the school program when appropriate. The school will also provide an outline and description of its curriculum and the assessments used by the school system to measure student progress in meeting Georgia's student achievement standards.

Workshops will be conducted to train parents in ways they can contribute to the progress of their children. Ideas will be shared for monitoring attendance, television viewing, completing homework, as well as other areas that will help parents encourage their children's academic pursuits. Efforts will be made to provide a supportive and effective learning environment by collaborating with the Migrant Education Program and other departments to facilitate language translation for parents as needed. Efforts will be made to coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs, activities and strategies with Title I-B, Title I-C, Homeless, Vocational Education, Home Instruction, and other programs, to the extent feasible and appropriate (Louis Machado, District Interpreter; Andrea Lamb, Alison Smoyer, and Alexandria Flowers, ESOL teachers; and Dr. Gail Greenway, Director of Federal Programs). Parents and students with disabilities will also be accommodated with collaboration with the Special Education Department at the school and system level. Parental surveys will be conducted periodically to assist in the joint assessment of our school and its students. Criticism of the school and its policies will be reviewed and addressed. Results of these surveys will also be shared with the Emanuel County Board of Education.

Emanuel County Institute will implement and coordinate parent programs in order to build ties between home and school. The utilization of parental feedback will show an appreciation of their contributions and will benefit our aim to work with parents as equal partners. In addition, formal compacts among students, home, and school will be employed to specify everyone's contributing role in reaching each individual student's goals. Parent-teacher conferences will be held at least annually to relate individual student achievement to the compact. Parents will be informed of student academic progress every four and a half weeks, and a formal report card will be sent home every nine weeks. Grade level chairpersons, individual teachers, the intervention specialist, or the counselor will schedule meetings with parents as necessary to address student progress. A concerted effort to improve communication and collaboration between the home and the school will have a direct impact on our students and will benefit all involved.