



2021-2022

**WALKER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

PART I GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Walker County School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The Walker County School District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents and families in all of the schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and families of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the Walker County School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA. This compact shall outline how parents and families, the entire school staff, and student will share the responsibility for improved student achievement, and the means by which the school and parents /families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. Each classroom teacher shall at least annually discuss the school-parent and family compact with the parent/family in regards to the individual child. This may be completed during parent/family conferences, orientation, or by appointment. Signed school-parent/family compacts will be kept on file for documentation.
- The Walker County School District will incorporate this LEA Parent and Family Engagement Plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Walker County School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and families with limited English proficiency, parents and families with disabilities, and parents and families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and families understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parent/family of participating children, the Walker County School District will submit any parent/family comments with the plan when the Walker County School District submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The Walker County School District will involve the parents and families of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The Walker County School District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-

- (A) that parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) that parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) that parents and families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*

(D) *the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*

- The Walker County School District will inform parents and families and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information.

**PART II DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE WALKER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT
REQUIRED LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

1. The Walker County School District will take the following actions to involve parents and families in the joint development of its LEA Parent and Family Engagement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA.
 - The Walker County Board of Education Parent Involvement Coordinator shall develop with school-wide committee representatives and the District Advisory Council a written policy in accordance with ESSA. These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and families of participating children. The policy shall be in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent feasible, provided in a language the parents and families can understand. The policy shall be made available to the parents and families and local community.
2. The Walker County School District will take the following action to involve parents and families in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - The District Advisory Council shall consist of parent/family representatives from each Title I school. The school-wide committee shall consist of parent representatives and a designated person to coordinate parent and family involvement. The LEA will provide training for parent leaders of each local school to work with all parents and families in the school to inform them of Title I, Part A.
3. The Walker County School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
 - The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator shall provide technical assistance to the District Advisory Council and school-wide committee through scheduled meetings, webinars, online workshops and virtual meetings. These meetings will be conducted when necessary to implement an effective parent/family involvement program to increase student and school performance. Agendas and sign-in sheets will be kept on file for documentation.
 - The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator shall conduct an annual survey of parents and families regarding topics of interest, needs and most convenient time. The surveys will be analyzed by the district and individual schools in order to plan district and local school parenting activities.
4. The Walker County School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under the following other programs:
 - The Walker County School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under the following other programs:
 - o Mental Health
 - o Special Education
 - o Local community organizations
 - o Pre-K
 - The Walker County School District to the extent feasible and appropriate will coordinate and integrate parent involvement activities with other parent involvement programs, such as, technology workshops which include:
 - o Pearson Success
 - o Reading Horizons
 - o PowerSchools
 - o Literacy training through Beville State Community College
 - o STAR

- Documentation of coordination of services such as flyers to parents and families, agendas, and sign-in sheets will be kept on file.

The Walker County School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents and families, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and families in parent and family engagement activities (with particular attention to parents and families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The Walker County School District will use the finding of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (with the involvement of parents and families) its parent and family engagement policies.

- The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator shall conduct annual evaluations regarding the content and effectiveness of the policy and plan. If the plan for Title I, Part A is not satisfactory to the parents and families of participating children, the parents and families must submit an explanation of concern in writing to the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator. Any parent/family comments concerning the plan will be submitted with the plan to the State Department of Education.

1. The Walker County School District will build the schools' and parents and families' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and families, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The Walker County School District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents and families of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by taking actions described in this paragraph--
- the State's academic content standards
 - the State's student academic achievement standards
 - the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - the requirement of Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators:
- o Each local school shall explain to parents and families the curriculum, forms of assessment, and proficiency levels that students are expected to meet. This may be shared during the Annual Title I meeting, Orientation, in the school student handbook, report cards, progress reports, letters to parents and families, and/or parent/teacher conferences by appointment.
 - o Each school shall ensure that parents and families have reasonable access to staff during staff planning time or at scheduled appointments via Remind 101, email, telephone, or video conferencing. Documentation of meetings will be kept.
- B. The Walker County School District will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents and families work with their children to improve their children's mental health, academic achievement, such as literacy training, using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement, by:
- Each school shall plan parent and community involvement activities to ensure student academic achievement. These activities may include helping students build test taking skills, math skills, and self-esteem. Other topics, such as, dealing with suicide prevention, Internet safety, bullying and training on drug and alcohol awareness may be conducted.
- C. The Walker County School District will, with the assistance of its schools and parents and families, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents and families as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and families, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs to build ties between parents and families and schools, by:

- The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator and each local school shall schedule an Annual Title I Meeting to inform parents and families of schoolwide authority and their right to be involved. Due to Covid-19, meetings may be virtual or this information may be provided via the web. Powerpoints and agendas will be kept for documentation. Parents and families shall be provided information regarding programs, activities and training in a timely manner.
- The Walker County School District will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental Involvement programs and activities with Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents and families in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- The Walker County Board of Education to the extent feasible and appropriate will coordinate and integrate parent involvement activities with other parent involvement programs, such as, literacy training through Beville State Community College and CPR through the American Red Cross will also be available. Documentation of coordination of services such as flyers to parents and families, agendas, and schedules will be kept on file.

D. The Walker County School District will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents and families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand:

- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Walker County School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and families with limited English proficiency, parents and families with disabilities, and parents and families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and families can understand.
- Each school shall ensure that parents and families have reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer/participate, and observe in their child's classroom. Documentation may include but not be limited to Remind documentation, volunteer sign-in sheets, parent/visitor sign-in sheets, and a list of planned activities.

PART III DISCRETIONARY LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The LEA parent and family engagement Plan includes discretionary activities that the Walker County School District, in consultation with its parents and families, chooses to build parents and families' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement and social- emotional learning, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- involving parents and families in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents and families from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation, to enable parents and families to participate in training sessions;
- training parents and families to enhance the involvement of other parents and families;
- in order to maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their children's education, school meetings are arranged at a variety of times;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent and family engagement;
- establishing an LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations in parent and family engagement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under section 1118 as parents and families may request.

PART IV APPROVAL

This LEA Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents and families of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the District Advisory Committee. The Walker County School District will distribute this plan to all parents and families Title I, Part A children, to the extent practicable, in a language parents and families can understand on or before **August 31, 2021**.