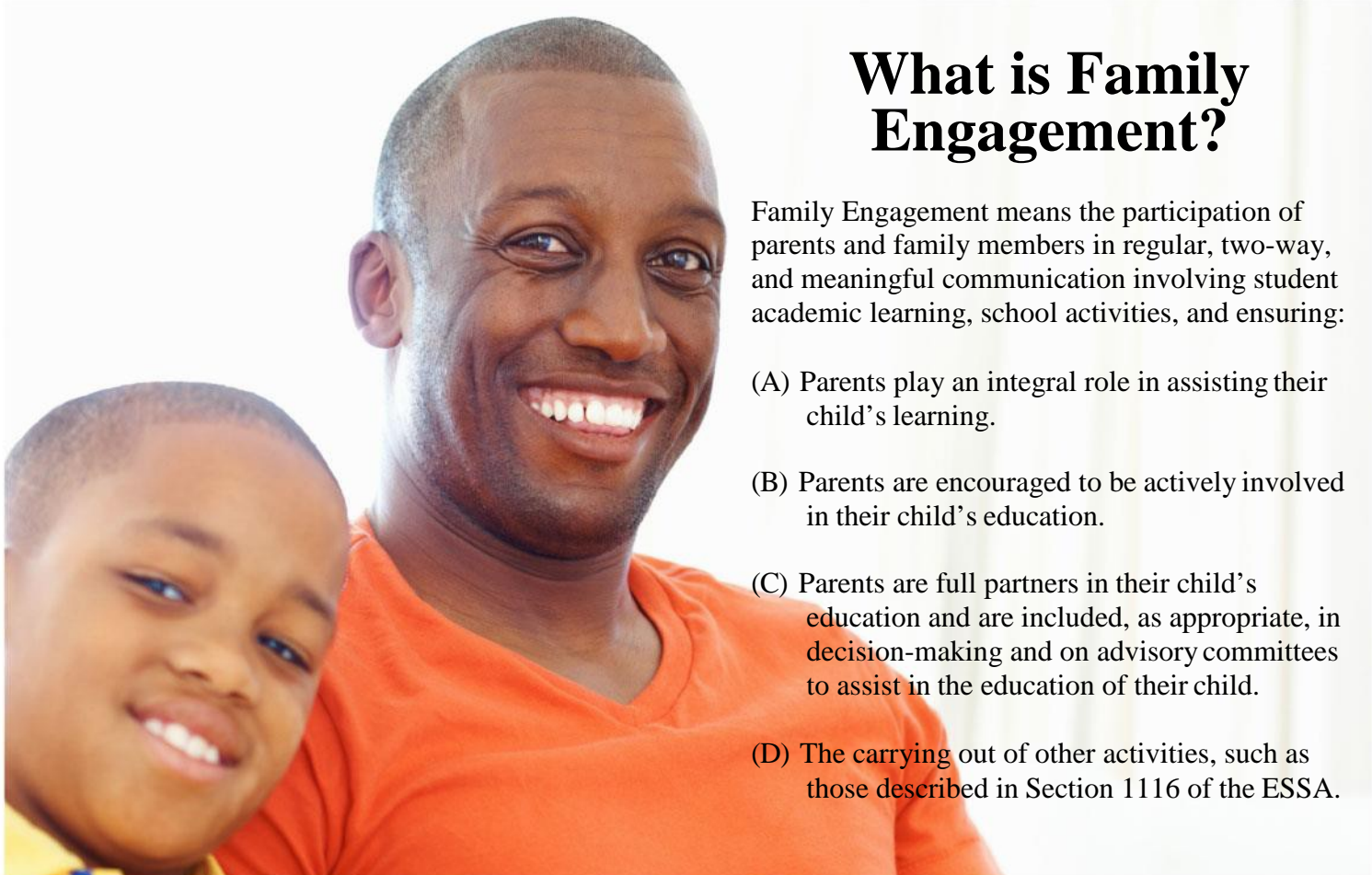


# Bulloch County School District

## Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2023-2024 School Year  
Revised June 12, 2023  
150 Williams Road, Suite A  
Statesboro, GA 30458  
www.bulloch.k12.ga.us



### What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning, school activities, and ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
- (D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

### About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Bulloch County Schools (BCS) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan describes BCS's commitment to engage families and build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement and to achieve academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program,

such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, the BCS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement plans meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

## Jointly Developed

Bulloch County Schools will take the following action to involve parents and family members in jointly developing the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 111 (d) of the ESSA:

- Distribute parent surveys to all parents of students enrolled in Title I schools to involve parents in the development of this plan and use of parent and family engagement funds.
- Provide parents access to the information in the district's parent and family engagement plan, the district's Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), and the school's improvement plans, through the district website, and engage in dialogue about the plan during parent and family engagement meetings, such as the following:
  - Annual Title I Public Meetings
  - Migrant Parent Advisory Committee Meetings
  - Open Houses
  - Parent Workshops/Family Events

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan will be incorporated into the CLIP which is submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to their child's school.

The district parent and family engagement plan is posted on district and school websites, distributed during the annual Title I school meetings, and made available in the schools' parent resource centers.

## Strengthening Our Schools

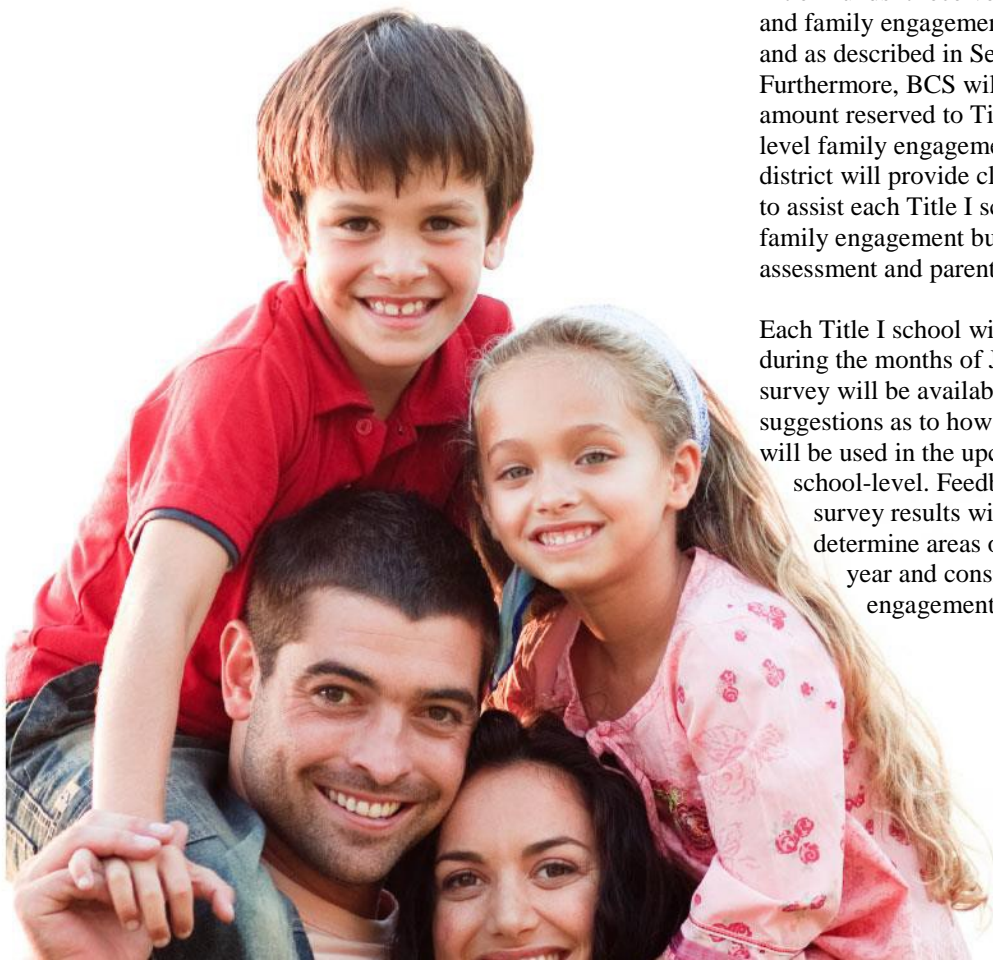
This year, the district will provide assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the district to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district may hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals and school Family Engagement Specialists to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district Family Engagement Specialists will convene a meeting with the principal and key stakeholders at their respective schools in the spring of each year. The purpose of this meeting is to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

## Reservation of Funds

BCS will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY24 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this plan and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, BCS will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I school will hold a Parent Input meeting during the months of January or February, 2024 and a survey will be available during this time, seeking suggestions as to how these family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Feedback from these meetings and the survey results will be reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget.





## Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend the two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

### **District Family Engagement Review Meeting ~ June 12, 2023**

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from Bulloch County Schools as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement plan and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2022-2023 school year. This meeting will be held on June 12, 2023. The district will communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website and through social media.

### **Title I Parent Input Meetings ~ January-February, 2024**

During this time, each Title I school will host a meeting for parents and family members to participate in discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement plan as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and programs. Each Title I school will send invitations home as well as email parents to notify them about the date and time of the meeting. Information regarding the Title I Family Input Meeting will also be made available on the school websites.

Parent input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey available in January, 2024. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

**Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit [www.bullochschoools.org/federalprograms](http://www.bullochschoools.org/federalprograms) to review the meeting documents and leave your input.**

## **Building Capacity**

Bulloch County Schools will build school and parent capacity for strong family engagement to ensure effective engagement of parents and family members in supporting partnerships among the Title I schools. Parents and the community share a goal of improving student academic achievement, and building capacity through districtwide activities and programs.

***Parents*** - BCS will work through its Title I schools to provide assistance to parents in understanding state and district academic information connected to student learning and progress. The district will also provide parents with information regarding the Title I program. Programs for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards, local academic assessments, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students, including alternative forms of assessment, will also be provided. The dates and locations for these programs will be posted on the district website and shared through each Title I school's website.

In addition, BCS will coordinate pages on the district and school websites that will contain resources and materials, including parent guides, study guides, practice assessments, to help parents work with their children at home. Copies of these materials will be made available at all Title I schools for those families who may have limited internet access, including copies in Spanish. To assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), the family engagement specialists may host workshops for parents. The dates and times for these workshops will be determined and announced by each individual school and made available to parents.

BCS will coordinate and integrate the family engagement programs with the district's Pre-K programs and other federal and state funded preschool programs by inviting faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the fall, the elementary schools will host Pre-Kindergarten Orientation so parents may tour the schools and receive information to help prepare them and their children for kindergarten. BCS will also coordinate with these programs to ensure that parents are informed about available resources.

***School Staff*** - BCS will conduct two trainings per semester during the school year for all administrators, faculty and staff to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

# Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, BCS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the Parent Input meetings.

In January, 2024, each Title I school will email the survey link to parents so they may provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents to

complete. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will host a Title I Parent Input Meeting to facilitate group discussions for parents of children eligible to receive Title I services so we may design strategies for more effective family engagement.

BCS will use the findings from the input meeting and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement plans.

## Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand. Residential facilities in the school attendance area are included in any parent involvement correspondence and activities as well.

## Mark Your Calendars

Annual Parent Survey  
January-February 2024

Title I Parent Input Meetings  
January-February 2024

District Family Engagement  
Review Meeting  
Annual Public CLIP  
Meeting June 2024  
BCS Board Office

## Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel.

This policy was adopted by Bulloch County Schools on June 12, 2023 and will be in effect for the 2023-2024 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before or during the first week of fall semester.

