

Greene County School District Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan



Greene County School District Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan *Greene County* *2018 - 2019* *August 1, 2018*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Greene County School District receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

The Greene County School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent

comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the state Department of Education.

- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including 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 at school
- (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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED
LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The **Greene County School District** will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

During the District Annual Title 1 and Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP) meeting in June and July, all parents will be invited to participate and provide input and ideas on how to improve parent and family engagement policy for the 2018 – 2019 school year. Each school will also have Title 1 meetings at their school between the months of August and September. Parent and Family Engagement plans are also placed at the front desk of each school and distributed during parent engagement meetings throughout the year.

The District Parent and Family Engagement policy is also posted on the website and parents are able to provide feedback during the year. The policy will be posted on the website and distributed during the school year at all parent engagement meetings and a copy posted in all School Resource Centers.

Parents are involved in the development and review of the School Improvement Plan/Title I Schoolwide Plan and CLIP through;

- **Participation in the annual CLIP meeting, which is advertised on the district website, social media; local radio station; and in the local newspaper;**
- **Online surveys/questionnaires requesting their input for the CLIP**
- **Participating in Title I Schoolwide Plan input meetings that are held at each school;**
- **Participating in online surveys about the school improvement plans posted on each school's website.**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The **Greene County School District** will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education:

The Greene County School System District Parent Liaison and Parent Involvement Coordinators will provide assistance and support to all Title 1 schools to ensure that Family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement Activities are being implemented. Each school in the district will receive updated Information and resources from the Georgia Department of Education and will be Provided by District Parent Liaison and delivered by Parent Involvement Coordinators from each school. This will allow the opportunity to improve and strengthen family engagement in their school. The District Parent Liaison and Parent Involvement Coordinators will provide quarterly meetings with Title 1 schools' principals to review changes with family engagement plans and activities. (Via webinar, website or in person)

During the District Strategic Planning session during the summer, Title 1 Director will review parent and family engagement requirements. District Parent Liaison will meet with each Title 1 Principal during the summer to plan family engagement activities for the school year.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The **Greene County School District** will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The evaluation will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

The Greene County School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for

Strong parental involvement through a variety of activities to include but not Limited to:

Providing information to parents in written form or through meetings topics such as the Georgia Standards of Excellence, State and local student academic achievement standards/assessments, NWEA/GA Milestones testing and requirements under parent involvement law.

Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children and monitor their progress to improve their children's achievement.

Training educational staff on how to build ties between parents and the school.

Provide parents with resources and material to take home.

Sending information to parents in advance in the form of Call-outs, Email, Flyer, Facebook, Newspaper, Radio or website.

Implement activities such as: Computer classes, Tutoring Assistance, After School Programs, Parent Academy, Website training

Provide parent informational meetings outside of school property.

Provide curriculum night at all schools: Examples: Reading, Math, and ELA.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The **Greene County School System** will involve the parents and family members 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 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

The Greene County School System will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title 1 funds received in FY 2019 to implement parent and family engagement Requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. The remaining 90 percent will be reserved for Title 1 schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The Title 1 Coordinator will work with each school to assist in developing a budget adequate enough to address the needs of the school along with parent recommendations.

Each school at their District Annual Title 1 meeting in May will discuss the 1 percent reserve funds received and parents will provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used during the upcoming school year. At the completion of meeting, Title 1 Coordinator, District Parent Liaisons, Principals and others will review to determine areas of need.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The **Greene County School District** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs: [*Head Start or other public preschool programs, parent resource centers, and other programs*] that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Greene County School System will work with the Bright from the Start Pre-k program, Head Start and other programs to encourage and support parents by participating in Open House and assist with providing monthly parent workshops for parents. The district also hosts a Kindergarten Roundup for students transitioning to kindergarten.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The **Greene County School System** will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State academic standards
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- How to increase/improve literacy through school-family partnerships
- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators

Greene County School System will provide the following activities for the 2018- 2019 school year: Parent/Teacher Conferences, Curriculum Nights (Math & Reading), SAT/ACT & Career Night, College Prep Activities Common Core Standard Workshop, Website/Computer Training, NWEA/Georgia Milestones Testing Workshop, Parent Academy, Report Card Night, Parent Resource Rooms and Math and Science Night.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The **Greene County School System** will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and schools by:

Each school has a parent involvement coordinator who provides professional learning to teachers two times per year.

The district parent liaison/parent involvement coordinator and school level coordinators disseminate information to teachers and principals at their school faculty meetings.

Schools implement Parent University (coordinated by the district parent involvement coordinator), and teachers attend the meetings to learn and work with parents. Schools share information with parents through flyers/letters home and through school websites. All printed materials are shared in multiple languages.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

***NOTE TO THE LEA:** The LEA parent and family engagement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school district to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESSA:*

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents 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 parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents
- Maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement
- Establishing a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities

***NOTE TO THE LEA:** Describe how each discretionary item your district and parents chose will be implemented.*

ADOPTION

This LEA parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by _____.