

Rapides Parish Schools

Title I E.S.S.A.

District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The purpose of the Rapides Parish School District Title I Parent, Family, & Community Engagement Program is to support the strengthening of student academic achievement, assist families, and schools to provide the necessary resources and tools to help students arrive to school ready to succeed.

The Rapides Parish School District's aim is to include parents/caregivers in all aspects of the District's Title I Program. The goal is a strong home-school partnership with principals, teachers, support staff, parents/caregivers, and the community that will help all students in the district to succeed.

It is the Rapides Parish Title I District Parent and Family Engagement Policy to:

Have a meeting at the district level to inform parents about their rights to be involved in the Title I Program.

1. At the beginning of the year, the District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator will recruit Parents/caregivers, from Title I schools and host monthly meetings with District Parent Advisory Members.
 - A. All schools will submit the names, addresses, and contact information of two to three parents/caregivers to District Coordinator to attend quarterly district level "Parent Advisory Council" meetings September, November, December, February, April, and May during the 2024- 2025 school year. Parents/caregivers attendance at meetings will be tracked according to "Feeder Schools." (updated)
 - B. Each meeting, parents will be contacted by letter informing them of each meeting date, time, place, and topic of discussion according to the agenda of the meeting. (updated)
 - C. At the beginning of each school year, all schools will receive a poster, flyer, and applications of the "District Parent Advisory Council" schedule. Schools are required to post the (PAC) schedules for parents/caregivers to see. Flyers should be passed out to parents during school activities or sent out electronically through various sources of social media platforms. (updated)
2. Assist Title I Schools in helping parents to understand the **Every Student Succeeds Act (E.S.S.A.)**. Teach parents/caregivers their rights and key principles of Title I Law.

Develop and work with parents/caregivers at the district level:

- D. Annual "What Is Title I" Meeting
- E. What is a "School Parent Compact"
How are "School Parent Compact" developed.
What are the components of a "School Parent Compact "
- F. District Parent and Family Engagement Policy
- G. Parent Right-To-Know Letter
- H. Parent Complaint Procedure (District and State)

3. Engage parent/caregivers in the purpose, description, and components of the “Title I School Wide Plan”. The District Coordinator will encourage and assist parents/caregiver on how to review the SWP and become a part of their child’s School Wide Planning Team.
 - I. The District Coordinator will assist Title I Schools in educating district parents/caregivers on the goals, objectives, purpose, and components of the SWP. Information about the school wide planning teams, meetings, and training will be discussed.
4. Each school year, the District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator will assist Title I Schools in offering a flexible number of meetings each month for parents. Meetings at the school level will be offered in the mornings, lunchtime, or evenings. Meetings for parents/caregivers at the school level can also be held at community centers, libraries, and other meeting places found near each school’s neighborhood.

The District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator will assist schools and provide in-services for district parent advisory council with various parent workshops/trainings:

- J. Incorporate (Zoom Meetings) when needed (updated)
- K. Hybrid Parent Meetings (updated)
- L. Family Tech Talk (for parents and caregivers) (updated)
- M. Parent App “Parent-Teacher Chat” (updated)
- N. Family Nights (Math, Literacy, S.T.E.M./S.T.E.A.M., Poetry, Writing, etc.
- O. Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)/Parent Clubs/Parent Advisory Council
- P. Create a PTO Handbook Guidelines (updated)
- Q. School Level Parent Workshops/Trainings (Testing, Curriculum, Homework, New Programs at School, etc.)

The District Parent Advisory Council Meetings will be held at the RPSB Media Center and local schools to allow Title I programs to be seen as work in progress. Each month parents/caregivers will be trained at the district level, workshops to help parents/caregivers with their child/children at home. Title I Parent Engagement activities district wide will reach out to nontraditional venues and groups to increase input and awareness of Title I Parent and Family Engagement Programs.

5. The District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator will work with, train, and assist Title I schools administrators, teachers, support staff, pupil service personnel, other staff, and District Parent Advisory Council on how:
 - R. To recognize and utilize contributions of parents/caregivers.
 - S. To reach out to and communicate with parents/caregivers.
 - T. Work with families and the community.
 - U. Effective ways to conduct Parent-Teacher-Conferences
 - V. How to recruit male fathers/father figures and encourage volunteering to increase their participation in school activities. (updated)

The District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator will create a council for dads/father figures in participating schools titled “All Pro Dads”. The plan of action is on file in the district coordinator’s office. Schools can contact the District PAFE Coordinator for more details, if they are interested in this program. The goal is to have as many Rapides Parish schools as possible to participate in this program by the year 2025 – 2026.(updated)

6. Parents will be surveyed quarterly throughout the school year to determine the whether parents/caregivers engagement needs are being met effectively and appropriately through implementation of the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Program at each school and district level. Parents/Caregivers and community will be given the option to complete quarterly surveys throughout the year via paper copy, electronically. (email, websites, face book, etc.)The results of quarterly surveys will be used to develop strategies for school improvement and plan future parent workshops, meetings, and activities.(updated)

***** This policy was adopted, reviewed, revised, updated, and approved May 3, 2024, by the Rapides Parish Title I District Parent Advisory Council.**

**Lottie Crockett, Title I District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator
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Dr. LaQuanta Jones, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of School
Improvement/Collaborations**