

☞ Offer professional development opportunities, virtually and/or in person, for teachers, administrators, and other district employees to enhance the ability of schools to effectively service all students, parents, and families.

## Parent Notifications

### Parent's Right to Know



At the beginning of the school year, parents must be informed of their right to request information about qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals (District).

If substitutes who are not properly certified are used for four or more weeks, a letter must be sent to parents explaining the current classroom status (Schools).



## Office of Federal Program

If you have any questions or concerns please fill out our feedback form on our website at :

**[www.horrycountyschools.net](http://www.horrycountyschools.net)**

under Academics in the Federal Programs department; or you can contact:

**Michelle Dunsford**

Director, Office of Federal Programs

**Phone:** 843-488-7018

**E-mail:**

[mdunsford@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:mdunsford@horrycountyschools.net)

Reviewed/Revised 03/03/2025



Horry County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, immigrant status, English-speaking status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal or South Carolina law in its programs or activities. For questions regarding the nondiscrimination policies call 843-488-6700, Horry County Schools, 335 Four Mile Rd, Conway, SC 29526.

# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

**2025-2026**



**Horry County Schools  
Federal Programs/Office of  
Title I  
335 Four Mile Road  
Conway, South Carolina 29526  
(843) 488-6787**

## PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### **Our Parent & Family Engagement Policy:**

☞ Encourages, supports, and values the participation and involvement of parents and families in the educational experiences of their children that improve student academic achievement and school performance

☞ Commits to developing family-friendly schools, offices, and programs that welcome parents and families to positive and supportive environments

☞ Recognizes students learn best when families and schools work together, developing relationships of shared responsibility and mutual support

☞ Assists parents in learning how home environments can support the academic achievement of students

☞ Offers strategies such as parenting classes, home visitation opportunities, and adult education programs to support parents

☞ Provides special assistance to ensure that non-English speaking parents may participate as full partners in their child's education

☞ Recognizes parents, family and community members make valuable contributions to the educational process as participants in important school and district decisions

☞ Encourages parents, families, and community members to participate on a school committee that meets 3 times a year, to become members of parent organizations (at school and district levels) and to serve as volunteers for classrooms, school, and district-wide activities. (Meetings or events may be held virtually and/or in person.)

## TITLE I FUNDS PROVIDE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

### **Conducts outreach to involve parents, family and community members in the joint development of the District Plan and in the Process of School Review and Improvement.**

- ☞ Collaborate with community stakeholders at all levels of District and School Strategic Planning.
- ☞ School-wide planning teams review the school-wide plans and provide input into revisions, additions and deletions for activities and budget.
- ☞ Findings from each school's needs assessment will be utilized.
- ☞ Present Title I program/activities and requirements at parent meetings.
- ☞ School-wide plans are presented at annual meetings.
- ☞ (Meetings may be conducted virtually and/or in person.)

### **Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective Parent & Family Engagement Activities**

- ☞ Involve parents and family members in decisions regarding how funds are allotted for Parent & Family Engagement Activities.
- ☞ Not less than 1% of the Title I allocation will be reserved for parent and family engagement activities including family literacy and parenting skills.
- ☞ Not less than 90% of the funds reserved for parent and family engagement shall be distributed to schools for activities including education workshops and home visits.
- ☞ Provide training to school staff, administration, and parents to strengthen parent involvement efforts.
- ☞ Provide a school counselor program in coordination with mental health counselors for services such as individual and group counseling, home visits, character education, and career education programs
- ☞ Provide coordination for effective parent and family engagement through the School's Improvement Council (SIC).

### **Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family involvement**

- ☞ Involve parents in planning of the Title I Plan
- ☞ Provide parent conference opportunities
- ☞ Provide family nights on literacy, math, science, and state academic standards
- ☞ Support and participate in volunteer programs
- ☞ Encourage parents to observe in classrooms
- ☞ Share results from Response to Intervention (RTI) Teams that identify and monitor children at risk
- ☞ Sponsor Parent/Student Orientation Night
- ☞ (Meetings may be conducted virtually and/or in person.)

### **Coordinate and integrate Parent & Family Engagement Strategies under programs, such as Babynet, Child Find and Parent-Child Home Program.**

- ☞ Developmental screenings are available for children from birth to age 2-1/2 years old. Contact South Carolina Babynet at 1-877-621-0865 for more information or to schedule a screening appointment.
- ☞ Developmental screenings are available for children aged 2-1/2 years old through 5 years old, not enrolled in a public school program. Contact Horry County Schools Preschool Assessment Office at 843-488-6220 for more information or to schedule a screening appointment.
- ☞ Home visits are available to families with children 16 months to 4 years old to strengthen the family and prepare children to succeed in school by increasing parent-child interactions. Contact the Parent-Child Home Program at 843-222-9959 for more information. Visits may be conducted virtually and/or in person.
- ☞ Parents and family members with children participating in these programs will be encouraged to become involved in all parenting activities.

- ☞ Horry County Schools provides two comprehensive Family Literacy Programs. The services include Adult Education, Parenting, Interactive Literacy Activities, and Early Childhood.
- ☞ Information is provided to parents and family members concerning early interventions for children and family literacy. Contact 488-6230 for more information.

### **Involve parents and families in the activities of the school served under Title I, Part A.**

- ☞ Schedule parent-teacher conferences at various times to accommodate parents' schedules
- ☞ Provide Family Night Workshops
- ☞ Encourage two-way communication between home and school through such methods as newsletters, email, phone calls, home visits, parent conferences, and surveys
- ☞ (Conference or workshop opportunities may be conducted virtually and/or in person.)

### **Conduct, (with the involvement of parents, family and community members), an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent & Family Engagement Policy that will determine the effectiveness of the present policy and any barriers to participation in parenting activities**

- ☞ Solicit comments from parents regarding the Parent & Family Engagement Policy through an annual survey conducted at registration and throughout the school year
- ☞ Appropriate revisions are made based on suggestions and or recommendations for improvement
- ☞ Distribute the final (DRAFT) Parent & Family Engagement Policy to parents in the fall.
- ☞ Update the policy, as needed. Conduct annual review with parents, family and community members, school /district administrators, and school staff members in order to continuously meet the

changing needs of the school. Virtually and / or in person.

- ☞ Use the findings of evaluation to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement activities. Revise the Parent & Family Engagement Policy, as necessary.
- ☞ Provide frequent reminders, such as flyers, newsletters, telephone contacts, and email messages to parents and families concerning meetings, workshops, and conferences.

### **Develop jointly with parents a School-Parent Compact to be given out at the first parent teacher conference.**

- ☞ Solicit comments from parents regarding the School-Parent Compact.
- ☞ Revise, as appropriate, based on suggestions and/or recommendations for improvement.
- ☞ Recognize the compact involves parents and family members making a commitment to share the responsibility for their children's performance.
- ☞ Recognize the school, parents and family members build and maintain meaningful communication (in a language family members understand) to help the students achieve state standards.

