Johnson County School District
2025-26
Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Revised May 15, 2025
With Parent Input
P. O. Box 110, 325 Lee Street
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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 and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.

(B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.

(C) That 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 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, *Johnson County School District* (JOCO) has developed this parent and family engagement policy 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 will describe JOCO's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student 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 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. The JOCO School District will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

Jointly Developed

In addition to each school's spring Parent Input Meetings, during the annual District Parent Input Meeting on May 15, 2025, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement policy for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. The district sent a flyer to all parents informing them about this meeting and posted an announcement on the school district website / social media page. During this meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), the Comprehensive Support and Improvement School's Plan, and the School wide Support and Improvement School's Plan. Additionally, each Title I school used its Parent Advisory Council to review the district parent and family engagement policy before the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement policy was incorporated into the CLIP which was submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to your child's school. All feedback received by May 15, 2025 was considered for revisions to this policy.

The district's plan to distribute this policy is to post it on district and school websites and in parent resource centers, disseminate it during the annual Title I school meetings in the fall, and email the link to all parents in a format and language they can understand.



Strengthening Our School

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

Additionally, the district will convene a leadership meeting in March for principals and FECs 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

The Johnson County School District will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 2025-2026 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in federal law. Furthermore, the Johnson County School District 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 hosted a series of Title I Parent Input Meetings in March and April for parents to provide suggests on how these family engagement funds could be used in the upcoming year at the district and school levels. Minutes were taking at these minutes and comments were reviewed as changes to the family engagement budget were considered.

If you have any suggestions, please, contact the JOCO Family Engagement Coordinator.

Opportunities for Meaningful Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners 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 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 Parent Input Data Meeting ~ *May 8, 2026*

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Johnson County School District as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement policy and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2025-2026 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website.

School Improvement Parent Input Data Meetings~ *March 23 - 27 & April 20 - 24, 2026*

During this week, each Title I school will host a forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement policies as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and topics for school staff training. Each Title I school will send invitations home as well as email and text parents to notify them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Improvement Forum will also be made available on the school websites.

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit
www.johnson.k12.ga.us/system/parents.htm **to review the documents and share your input.**
PTO@johnson.k12.ga.us



Building Capacity

The Johnson County School District will build partnerships between its Title I Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop capacity for this support, the Johnson County School District will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives. The superintendent and each school principal will maintain a Parent Advisory Council (PAC). Additionally, parents engage in onsite and offsite workshops to build capacity.

Of Parents - The Johnson County School District will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The district works with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information related to home school relationships, the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided. The district also aids parents in understanding use of its online student information system and other digital resources, including the harms of copyright piracy, through its technology specialists. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems, newsletters, and social media postings.

In addition, the district and school websites contain resources and materials such as parent guides, study guides, practice assessments, and materials for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials are also available at all Title I schools, including copies in Spanish.

The Johnson County School District Parent Advisory Council, made up of parent representatives from each Title I school, advises the district and schools on all matters related to family engagement. Community leaders and business partners are also invited to serve on the council. The participation of all of our parents and community partners is encouraged at in person meetings schedule in the morning, during the school day, and after school, as well as through video conferencing and recording options to accommodate varying schedules.

The Johnson County School District will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs such as, the local preschool program and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The district based on the JOCO Parent Engagement Timeline will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, schools will host "Get Ready for "Kindergarten days, Middle and High School Transition Nights, and College and Career readiness nights parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff - The Johnson County School District will conduct four trainings and reviews (with feedback) during the school year for principals and school FECs to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools. The purpose of the building staff capacity is to coordinate the sustainability and growth of home school relationships in the district. The Johnson County School District will also host a training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, home school relationships, 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' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and meetings. 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 social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the Johnson County School District will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

Beginning in April, each Title I school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to 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 also use the School Improvement Forum to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs parents of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The Johnson County School District will use the findings from the school forums 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 policies.

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.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

State of the District
August 20, 2025 –
County Board Office

Annual Parent Survey
April 14 - May 14, 2026

School Parent Input Meetings
March 24 - 28 & April 21 - 25, 2026 Local school site & Virtual / Digital Mtgs

District Parent Input Meetings
May 7, 2026
Local school site

For Schools

Welcoming Schools Training
August 1, 2025 –
County Board Office

Principal and Family Eng Training Meetings
Monthly during JOCO Leadership Meeting



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 at the annual State of the District meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Johnson County School District on May 19, 2025 and will be in effect for the 2025-2026 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.

Tecia McKay, Assoc Superintendent (Title I Dir.) _____ *May 22, 2025*
(Signature of Title I Director, Date)

Dr. Christopher Watkins, Superintendent _____ *May 22, 2025*
(Signature of Superintendent, Date)