

Dublin City Schools

District Family

Engagement Policy

2025-2026
Revised June, 2025
207 Shamrock Drive, Dublin, GA 31021
(478) 353-8000

What is Parental Engagement and Involvement?

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) 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 the ESSA.



About the Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Dublin City Schools (DCS) has developed this family engagement policy that establishes the district's expectations for 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 DCS'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 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 plans and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) contains the primary Title I Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, DCS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level family engagement policies 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. At the district level and at the school level, Continuous Improvement Teams (CIT) will be charged with implementation and review of this plan quarterly.

Jointly Developed

Between March and May 2025, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the District Family Engagement Policy for the upcoming school year at the annual Spring Title I Stakeholder Input meeting. The meeting included information on the Streamlined Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (SCLIP), School-Level Parent Engagement plan, expenditures for the 1% Parent Engagement Funding, and the Parent-School Compacts. Additionally, each Title I school used its Local School Governance Team, School Leadership Teams, and Family Engagement Input Meetings to review the District Family Engagement Policy before the end of the school year.

Upon final revision, the District Family Engagement Policy is incorporated into the SCLIP which is submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the district website or by submitting written comments to their child's school which is available in school Parent Resource Centers. Feedback received this year was included with the policy for this school year.

The district's plan to distribute this policy is to post it on the district and school websites, make it available in the family resource centers, and disseminate it during the annual Title I meetings in the Fall.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the Federal Programs Director will provide school-level Family Engagement Coordinators (FECs) with assistance and support 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 to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district will hold monthly meetings and trainings with Title I schools' FECs to review family engagement plans and activities. FECs will be responsible for sharing district resources and support from the meetings with their school leadership team. The district will share updates at monthly District Principals meetings.

The district will convene a summit in February for the district, principals, and schools to review family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

Reservation of Funds

DCS will reserve 1% from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY25 to carry out the family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, DCS will distribute 95% of the amount reserved to all 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 host an annual Spring Parent and Family Stakeholder Input meeting between the months of February and May for parents and Families to provide suggestions on how family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-levels. Additionally, opportunities for parents and families to provide suggestions will be afforded during regularly scheduled family engagement events throughout the year.

Survey data and minutes from these meetings 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 Parent Consultation

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

District and School Spring Stakeholder Input Meetings ~ To be Held between the Months of February and May, 2026

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from each Title I school in Dublin City Schools as well as review and provide input on the district Family Engagement Policy, school-level family engagement plans, school compacts, family engagement budget and program, and the District and School Improvement Plans for FY27 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be sent home to all parents and families in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding these meetings on the school and district websites, on DCS social media sites, at the parent and family engagement meetings, and each school's communication platform. During these sessions, each Title I school will facilitate forums for parents and families to participate in roundtable discussions to review the school-wide plan, the school's family engagement policies, parent-school compact, as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and family engagement programs. Each Title I school will send a letter home to parents notifying them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Parent and Family Stakeholder Input Meetings will also be made available on school websites.

Parent and family input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs will also be provided through the district stakeholder input survey that is disseminated 3x's/year. The survey will contain questions and statements related to the district's family engagement program that will allow parents and families to offer suggestions that may be used to inform future decisions regarding family engagement.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit the Title I school to review the meeting documents and leave your input.



Scan the code with your smartphone or tablet to access family engagement information from the DCS website.

<https://www.dcsirish.com/>

For Additional Information Contact: La'Ronda Fleming
Dublin City Schools
Federal Programs Director (478) 353-8000



Building Capacity

Dublin City Schools (DCS) 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 DCS will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives. The Academic Parent-Teacher Team (APTT) model of family engagement is one such initiative. Training and support of APTT was provided for through the Georgia Department of Education. APTT is a program wherein teachers and families partner to address academic goals through at-home learning activities. Additionally, to grow partnerships and increase two-way communication with our families, DCS will host two parent/teacher conferences that will inform and update families on the academic, behavior, and attendance progress of the learner. During these sessions, families will be equipped with tools and strategies essential to supporting the district's efforts to yield high achievement and success for all students.

For Parents - DCS 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 APTT, the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided. The district also offers assistance to parents in understanding use of its online student information system (Infinite Campus) 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 APTT materials for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials are also available at all Title I schools, including copies in Spanish upon request.

The DCS 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. The participation of all of our parents is encouraged in person or through video conferencing and recording options to accommodate varying schedules.

DCS 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 will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, schools will host Kindergarten Ready days, Middle and High School Transition Nights, and College and Career Fairs so parents and families may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

For School Staff – DCS implements the APTT family engagement model to strengthen teacher-family relationships by focusing on student academic growth and achievement. Each school's Continuous Improvement Team (CIT), led by the school's Family Engagement Coordinator (FEC), will conduct an APTT training for the entire school staff. The purpose of the CIT is to coordinate the sustainability and growth of APTT in the district. The school-level CIT's 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, APTT meetings, 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 by FEC's on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and APTT meetings. Information posted on the district's website will be translated to the extent practical. The district will also utilize the district's messaging system, district and school websites, local news media, and social media to post information for parents.

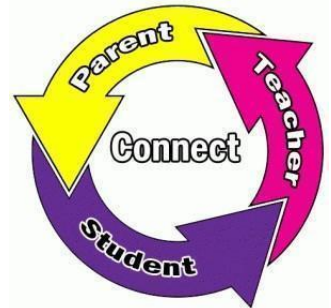
Academic Parent Teacher Teams

What is APTT? Academic Parent Teacher Teams are family engagement opportunities that foster collaboration between the school, the student and the parent. The Georgia Department of Education has provided training and support to Title I schools on this innovative approach to improve student outcomes through parent and teacher collaboration. The Continuous Improvement Teams (CIT) will be charged with the review of activities and implementation of the APTT model at the district and school level quarterly.

Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT) is a model of family engagement that is grounded in the notion that schools can thrive when families and teachers work together, as genuine partners, to maximize student learning inside and outside of school. The model is research-based and aligns grade-level learning concepts, student performance data, and family-teacher communication and collaboration. The APTT model supplements and elevates the efforts of traditional parent conferences by expanding opportunities for families and teachers to collaborate.

Goals

- Dublin City Schools (DCS) will develop meaningful relationships between schools and parents.
- DCS will share our focus on grade-level skills and content mastery to promote overall literacy and numeracy in a standards-based classroom.
- DCS will provide strategies for practice at home which supports classroom activities.

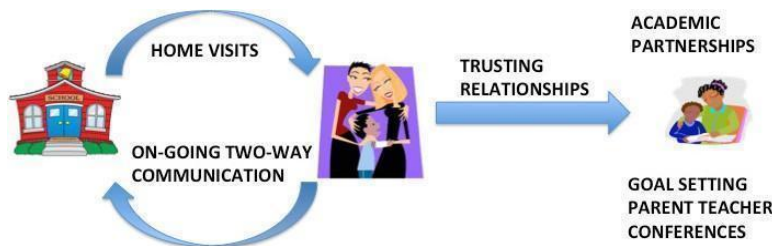


Team Meetings

In the APTT model, teachers facilitate three 75-minute team meetings each year — each consisting of the teacher meeting with the families of all of the teachers' students. The team meetings give families opportunities to learn and contribute in a collaborative environment. Important grade-level information and effective home practices are learned and exchanged with and among all families. During the 2024-2025 school year, DCS will provide literacy and math strategies to be used with the student in the home setting. Instructional leaders will create instructional kits for parents to use which support the literacy and math strategies being done in the classroom.

Individual Sessions

Once per year for each student, the teacher holds a 30-minute individual session with the student and the student's family to provide individualized, personal support. Individual sessions offer opportunities for families and teachers to deepen their relationship as partners, discuss each student's progress at home and at school, and collaboratively create a course of action to support student growth and improvement.



Parental Involvement Evaluation

Each year, using the district's annual family stakeholder input survey, DCS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this family engagement policy and the activities employed to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools.

Three times a year, each Title I school will employ a variety of means to disseminate a survey for parents and families to provide valuable feedback regarding the family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents and families to complete.

In addition to these surveys, each Title I school will also use the Continuous Improvement Input meetings to facilitate group discussions. These discussions will address the needs of families whose children are eligible to receive Title I services and to design strategies for more effective parental and family engagement.

DCS will use the findings from the school forums and the survey results to design strategies to improve family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent and family participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Adoption

This district-wide family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and families of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of families, school, and district personnel at school level family engagement meetings and the Spring District Stakeholder Meetings.

This policy was adopted by the Dublin City Schools in June 2025 and will be in effect for the 2025-2026 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 30, 2025.

Accessibility

In carrying out the family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the Federal Programs Director or/designee will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents and families 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 Schools

Local School Governance Team
Meetings/ Monthly

Student-Parent Teacher Conferences
2x's per School Year

School Family Engagement Events
2x's/Monthly

FEC Meetings
Monthly

CIT Meetings
Twice Monthly

All Meetings Posted on School Calendar

Access Link: <https://www.dcs.irish/>