Fannin County School System Parent and Family Engagement Plan

SY 2026-2027; May 15, 2026

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

The Fannin County School System agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116.

The school district will implement programs, activities, and procedures to engage parents and family members across all 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, including children under the care of CCI/CPA (such as Open Arms), who are acting as guardians for children in their care.

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 include a school-parent compact consistent with federal law. This includes parent-teacher conferences where the compact is addressed (at least annually), student progress reports, opportunities to volunteer and participate in and/or observe their child’s classroom activities, and reasonable access to staff.

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 1, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when it submits it to the state Department of Education.

The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and family engagement 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.

Family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to support their child's education.
- Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The Fannin County School System will involve parents and family members in jointly developing its Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), School Improvement/Title I Schoolwide Plans, school Parent and Family Engagement Plans, and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) plans if those were to become required for the district. We will encourage active involvement in plan revision and development by:

- Inviting parents/guardians as well as interested community members to review the school and district engagement and improvement plans annually and provide feedback;
- Inviting parents/guardians to district and school-sponsored functions to encourage an equal partnership in educating their child;
- Ensuring that current engagement and improvement plans for all schools and the district are available on the system or school websites for parents or guardians to access;
- Reserving two seats on every school's local School Governance Team for parent/guardian representatives;
- Publishing, advertising, and encouraging parent/guardian involvement in school committees, which may include but are not limited to the School Improvement Team and Parent Advisory Groups.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Fannin County School System will:

- Provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all Title 1, 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, philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
- Guide schools regarding their school-level engagement plan.
- Reach out to encourage community businesses to support parent/guardian employees by allowing them to attend school events, including parent conferences, during their workday.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Fannin County School System 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 plan in improving the academic quality of its Title 1, Part A schools.

The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities (with particular attention to economically disadvantaged parents, those who are disabled, those with limited English proficiency, those who 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 their children's learning, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

The school district will use the evaluation's findings on its parent and family engagement plan to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and, if necessary, revise its policies.

The system will:

- Identify through survey data any participation barriers experienced by parents, economically disadvantaged parents, who are disabled, have limited English proficiency (LEP), have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background;
- Develop solutions to remove barriers to participation, such as scheduling events at different times of day, offering multiple opportunities to participate, or providing childcare or transportation upon request.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The Fannin 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.

Every fall, parents can review this budget and suggest expenditures by attending Parent Advisory Group meetings or contacting the Parent Liaison at each school. Additionally, parents will be surveyed regarding the best use of these funds.

Reserved funds may be used to provide professional development for district and school personnel regarding parent and family engagement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents and family members. Additionally, the schools may use a portion of these funds to support programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school, or provide information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The Fannin County School System, to the extent feasible and practicable, will develop and offer parent and family engagement opportunities to families who:

- Have children enrolled in other Federal, State, or local early learning programs (i.e., Head Start, Bright from the Start pre-K, etc.);
- Have students who are transitioning from elementary school to middle school or from middle school to high school;
- Have students who will graduate from high school and move into the postsecondary environment.

Additionally, the Fannin County School System will continue to provide early literacy resources, such as books and age-appropriate print material, to children of our residents who are not yet school-aged to build literacy in our community.

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The Fannin County School System will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and training on topics such as literacy and technology use to help parents work with their children to improve their academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The Georgia Standards of Excellence;
- State and local academic assessments, including Georgia Milestones Assessments;
- The requirements of Title I, Part A;
- How to monitor their child's progress;
- How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The Fannin County School System will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents and 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 offering training, workshops, and other learning opportunities to support the relationship between home and school. Survey results, faculty and staff input, and parent input will determine the topics for these relationship-building trainings. They may include reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1116.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

The Fannin County School System will build involvement for all groups of stakeholders by:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training and forge meaningful relationships;
- Training parents to encourage and support the involvement of other parents;
- Maximizing parent involvement and participation by scheduling school meetings, events, and activities at various times;
- Offering opportunities for regular meetings (if requested by parents) to formulate suggestions and participate in decisions relating to the education of their child(ren);
- Responding to suggestions as soon as practicable;
- Providing additional support for parental engagement activities as parents request, whenever possible.

ADOPTION

This LEA parent and family engagement plan was developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by stakeholder feedback meeting agendas, sign-in sheets, and follow-up survey data.

This plan will be in effect for the 2026-2027 school year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children each year on or before September 1.

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