Parent and Family Engagement

1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% parent and family engagement set-aside, and the rights of parents involved. (Sec. 1116(c)(1))

The Title 1 presentation also covers the Title 1 requirements, Parents' Right-to-Know, the District Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education and as a volunteer at the school. A handout is provided for all attendees with a written summary of the information covered in the meeting. The school holds a Title 1 parent meeting to present Title 1 requirement, Parent's Right-to-Know, the school Title 1 Parent and family Engagement Plan, and Title 1 set aside family funds.

2a. Describe how there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

In addition to the Parent Information Meeting held annually, Appalachian School holds a "Meet the Teacher" day prior to the opening of school, encourages parents to be involved in PTSO, Athletic Booster Organizations, fundraisers, and to volunteer to serve as Classroom Adult Academic Volunteer. Meetings are offered at a varied of time to accommodate working parents. Teachers offer flexibly with conference's for parents who cannot come to the school.

2b. Describe how parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making).

Appalachian High School's CIP team consists of 1 parent from outside the school, two student and 12 employees. Parents are encouraged to make suggestions and are included in all meetings regarding planning, revising and approving the CIP. An annual Parent Survey is conducted each spring; the results and all comments are summarized by the LEA Parent Involvement Specialist and given to the school's principal for reference while planning the school's CIP. All parents are encouraged to submit their suggestions via email or in writing to the school's principal or vice principal.

2c. Describe how funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school. (Sec. 1116(c)(2)(3)).

Funds are allocated for stamps for parent mailings, parent instruction materials/ supplies (math night, brochures), two-way communication folders.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children. (Sec. 1116(c)(4)(A)(B)(C))

School-Parent Compacts are developed by a committee and participating parents as part of the Parent Liaison PAC. The compacts are distributed during the first nine weeks of school. Compacts are included in all new student registration packets in English and Spanish. Teachers and parents are encouraged to revisit the compacts each time they have a parent/teacher conference. Since Appalachian School includes students grades K-12, two separate compacts have been developed: one for students grades K-6th and another for grades 7-12th (both in English and Spanish). The school acknowledges its role in providing a safe and appropriate atmosphere for learning with highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals, as well as, adequate instruction, and encouragement for all students to meet their potential as students. Parents are asked to be a participant in their child's education: by providing necessary school supplies, monitoring their child's attendance and after school activities, assisting and encouraging their child to complete homework assignments, attending Title 1 meetings, information callouts, and participating in at least one parent/teacher conference each year. The students are asked to be engaged in school activities during the school day, to ask questions when they do not understand the information being presented, to complete homework assignments, and to perform to the best of their ability in all subjects. During the first semester of the school year, a "reader friendly" English/Spanish copy of the Parent Involvement section of the CIP will be distributed to all parents. An annual parent survey, in English and Spanish, which includes comment sections, is conducted by the LEA's Parent Involvement Specialist digitally and on paper. Summaries of the survey with all comments are provided to the principal for use in developing the school's CIP. A current copy of the CIP is available for review in the office, and a copy of the plan will be posted to the school's website. Parents are encouraged to submit comments and/or suggestions in writing to the principal. Additionally, the school will present the CIP to parents at a PTSO meeting. Appalachian's CIP Committee works diligently to ensure that all parent materials and training are closely aligned with our schools' identified goals.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated). (Sec. 1116(d))

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teacher conference. Since Appalachian School includes students grades K-12, two separate compacts have been developed: one for students grades K-6th and another for grades 7-12th (both in English and Spanish). The school acknowledges its role in providing a safe and appropriate atmosphere for learning with highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals, as well as, adequate instruction, and encouragement for all students to meet their potential as students. Parents are asked to be a participant in their child's education: by providing necessary school supplies, monitoring their child's attendance and after school activities, assisting and encouraging their child to complete homework assignments, attending Title 1 meetings, information callouts, and participating in at least one parent/teacher conference each year. The students are asked to be engaged in school activities during the school day, to ask questions when they do not understand the information being presented, to complete homework assignments, and to perform to the best of their ability in all subjects. During the first semester of the school year, a "reader friendly" English/Spanish copy of the Parent Involvement section of the CIP will be distributed to all parents. An annual parent survey, in English and Spanish, which includes comment sections, is conducted by the LEA's Parent Involvement Specialist digitally and on paper. Summaries of the survey with all comments are provided to the principal for use in developing the school's CIP. A current copy of the CIP is available for review in the office, and a copy of the plan will be posted to the school's website. Parents are encouraged to submit comments and/or suggestions in writing to the principal. Additionally, the school will present the CIP to parents at a PTSO meeting. Appalachian's CIP Committee works diligently to ensure that all parent materials and training are closely aligned with our schools' identified goals.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan. (Sec. 1116(c)(5))

During the first semester of the school year, a "reader friendly" English/Spanish copy of the Parent Involvement section of the CIP will be distributed to all parents. An annual parent survey, in English and Spanish, which includes comment sections, is conducted by the LEA's Parent Involvement Specialist digitally and on paper. Summaries of the survey with all comments are provided to the principal for use in developing the school's CIP. A current copy of the CIP is available for review in the office, and a copy of the plan will be posted to the school's website. Parents are encouraged to submit comments and/or suggestions in writing to the principal. Additionally, the school will present the CIP to parents at a PTSO meeting.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our

school:

Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

Appalachian's CIP Committee works diligently to ensure that all parent materials and training are closely aligned with our schools' identified goals. The district meets with each principal and/or assistant principal at the beginning of each school year to review an overview of the school's parent involvement plan and policies. Meetings, training sessions, and events provided by the LEA's Parent Involvement Program are discussed, as well as, opportunities for parental involvement. The school's compacts are also reviewed.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in 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 the school.

Appalachian School will work with its teachers through professional development, faculty meetings, and PTSO in understanding the importance of supporting parental involvement. Parent volunteers help with work days at school, fundraisers, and PTSO membership drives. Our Meet the Teacher Night has been successful in bringing parents into the school and fosters a close relationship between teachers and parents for the shared goal of student achievement. Student and parent orientations for incoming kindergarten students and seniors are held each year.

6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Appalachian School will work with its teachers through professional development, faculty meetings, and PTSO in understanding the importance of supporting parental involvement. Parent volunteers help with work days at school, fundraisers, and PTSO membership drives. Our Meet the Teacher Night has been successful in bringing parents into the school and fosters a close relationship between teachers and parents for the shared goal of student achievement.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

At the present time, Appalachian has approximately 72 EL students (EL1 or EL2). Information on school meetings, parent notices, etc., is sent to EL parents in Spanish. Parents of 47 students indicated on Powerschool Registration that they required translations. All Hispanic families receive the annual parent survey, provided by the District, in English and Spanish. The Migrant/ELL Home Liaison is available to translate any written communication between the home and school. Information on the parent involvement link of the www.blountboe.net website is posted in both English and Spanish. The Home Liaison also attends IEP, parent/ teacher conferences and disciplinary meeting upon request from either the school or the parent. The Home Liaison translates at parent meetings when needed.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our

school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

Appalachian makes every effort to work with parents in meeting their requests as related to their involvement in their children's education. Grades, as well as ACT and ACAP scores will be explained when a parent requests information. Newsletters are sent home with students in grades K - 6. Progress reports are given every 4 1/2 weeks to all students. Information is also updated frequently on our school's website and social media pages. The LEA Parent Involvement Program provides age-appropriate newsletters.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (See ESSA Sec. 1117(f))

Translators and sign-language interpreters are on staff with the Blount County Board of Education to ensure that all parents are able to understand the information being presented. All schools and facilities are handicap accessible. Reports and information, including student progress notes and report cards, are available in Spanish, or other languages (as needed). Special accommodations are continuously made to communicate with parents by phone and home visits as needed. A Migrant Liaison is on staff at the Blount County Resource Center, with a direct phone line, offering a wide variety of supports which also include the following: - Translating and support at all events including I.E.P. meetings and school functions - Translation of all written materials including Parent compacts, student handbook, newsletters, progress notes, report cards, etc. - Home visits to encourage school attendance and respond to needs that may not be expressed at the local school (tutoring needs, clothing, hygiene, food, medical, immunizations, dental, vision, financial aide, school supplies, etc.) - Pre-K support and enrollment in Headstart programs (multiple locations)- Outreach and identification of migrant families (posters, flyers, school notifications, dedicated direct phone line, booths at local events to inform parents of EL and migrant students of support services, etc.) - Professional Development for teachers to better serve students - Grade monitoring for all migrant and EL students with support provided for at-risk (drop out, failing, poverty) students - Information provided to parents about student options for College and Career Readiness (Career Tech, ACT testing support, and dual enrollment).