## 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))

Our district Federal Programs Advisory Committee which is made up of representatives from each school's CIP team, meets two times per year to review a needs assessment, Title I plan and set asides for the upcoming year. An Annual Federal Programs Informational Meeting for all parents will be held in each school. The district Parent Involvement Specialist will provide a PowerPoint Presentation which explains the District Set Asides, with emphasis on the 1% set aside for Parent Involvement. The presentation will also cover the Title 1 requirements, Parents' Right-to-Know, and opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education and as a volunteer at the school. A handout will be provided for all attendees with a written summary of the information covered in the meeting. A detachable section is provided for their signature as well as their comments, complaints, and/or suggestions. The detachable forms will be collected and used as additional parent input and will be considered in a future CIP committee meeting.

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.

Blountsville Elementary schedules events throughout the school year at various times of the day. Our Meet Your Teacher Day is hosted in afternoon and early evening hours to accommodate parents. Parents can schedule an appointment to meet with their child's teacher any time during the school year. We have an open house in the fall known as our Tiger Showcase for parents to visit our school and meet with teachers. We schedule PTO meetings in the evenings and have fun programs presented by students to showcase their many talents. We have a Night of the Arts for grades 4th-6th to show off their art projects and to perform in the talent show for family and our community.

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).

Blountsville Elementary parents serve as part of the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) committee. At least two local parents serve on the LEA's Parent Involvement Program's Parent Advisory Council. All parents are given the opportunity to make suggestions and offer ideas through a survey in the spring of each school year. Results from the annual Parent Survey are summarized and all comments are listed and provided to the principal for use in planning the Continuous Improvement Plan.

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

This year, we will be using our Parent Involvement allocation to purchase 2-way communication folders. The communication folders provide a structured way to share important information, such as announcements, schedules, and events, helping keep parents informed about what's happening at school. These folders also allow for feedback from both teachers and parents. Parents can express concerns or ask questions, while teachers can provide comments on student progress and behavior. By facilitating communication, we encourage parent involvement in their child's education, fostering a partnership between home and school. We will also be purchasing postage stamps to support communication between school and home.

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))

All classroom teachers send a newsletter home to parents which includes information about upcoming events, curriculum to be covered the next week, any assessments that are scheduled and what those tests involve, and other information that parents/guardians need to know in order to help their children succeed. The Blountsville Elementary website includes announcements, current and upcoming events, lunch and breakfast menus, and information on how to contact the school. Parent-teacher (PTO) meetings, Meet Your Teacher, and other parent-centered events are scheduled to keep parents informed and involved. All parental involvement information packets and notices are translated for all parents. The Parental Involvement coordinator and system-wide translator are housed in the same office. The LEA testing coordinator provides assessment information in the translated form and the EL Consulting teacher provides parents with information in the language they request.

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))

The Blountsville Elementary School-Parent Compact (available in both English and Spanish) was customized to our school and approved by the Continuous Improvement Plan Committee on which parents serve. During the Meet Your Teacher event, held before the opening of school in the fall, teachers meet with parents and have them and their children sign the compacts. If they are unable to attend the meeting, a copy is sent home with the child on the first day of the new

school year. If the copy is not returned in a reasonable time, a telephone contact is made and the parent/guardian is encouraged to sign the compact and return it. A copy of BES's School-Parent Compact is on the school website. The compact consists of three sections: (1) School Responsibilities to parents and students (including important events and the School Mission Statement) (2) Parent Responsibilities with regard to their child's education, and (3) Student Responsibilities to help insure their academic success. The compact also includes an area for documentation of parent/ teacher conferences held throughout the year. The School/Parent Compact is stored in the student's home room and made available to all teachers serving the student. An annual review of the compact allows us to keep it updated. Parents and teachers are encouraged to use the compact as a communication tool during Parent/Teacher conferences and other meetings involving both the parent and the teacher.

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

The Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) is developed by the CIP committee, which is made up of administrators, teachers, and parents. Blountsville Elementary begins work on our CIP during May and the final plan is submitted for the school board's approval in October. Several work sessions are conducted and input from the entire faculty and other stakeholders is gathered. Parent representatives serve on the CIP committee and all parents are also given an opportunity for input each year through the system-wide Parent Survey. Other opportunities exist to express dissatisfaction with the CIP at the school and county-wide level. Events such as Meet Your Teacher, Color Run, Night of the Arts, Tiger Showcase, PTO meetings, and Field Day bring parents in the school on a regular basis, giving them an opportunity for making practical suggestions for program improvement. Since we are a small community, many of our teachers participate in community activities, bringing them in contact with our stakeholders. There are many opportunities for informal feedback about school programs. The Blountsville Elementary CIP Committee will review, evaluate, and revise its Continuous Improvement Plan annually. Parents can review the CIP on the school website. The 1% set-asides summary sheet provided for each school's annual meeting has a section for comments, suggestions, and complaints. If parents/ stakeholders find something not satisfactory, they have the right to submit their concerns in writing to the school. The CIP Committee will review the concerns of the parents before submitting the final CIP to the central office.

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.

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.

At Blountsville Elementary School, teachers have email accounts that can be used by parents to access information and communicate with the teacher. We also use the Schoology Learning Management System. Students and parents can access learning assignments in the Schoology Learning Management System. Teachers, parents, and students can communicate about assignments and grades through the Schoology platform. The program provides parents and students with a means of accessing school information from home or any location via the internet. Our system is also utilizing PowerSchool Parent Portal, an information service that can be used as a communication tool to help increase parental involvement and promote student achievement. Parents are given access codes to their child's PowerSchool data. This information may include report card grades, daily grades, test grades, current class averages, attendance, and discipline data. The school website contains lots of information and is updated frequently. Also, there is a Parent Involvement link on the district website. We have literacy meetings throughout the school year to inform parents about the Alabama Literacy Act and how it affects their child. We also provide opportunities for them to engage with teachers and learn strategies to make literacy activities at home fun and worthwhile.

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.

Parents are invited to come to school for formal conferences regarding their children. All teachers utilize their email to communicate with parents as needed. All teachers regularly send home newsletters to keep parents informed about school activities and current standards being taught. The Schoology Learning Management System offers parents and teachers another format to access information and communicate about school events, academics, and grades.

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.

We have PTO meetings with a theme focusing on numeracy and literacy topics. Grade levels Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade provide entertaining programs to delight the community. Our teachers and staff present meaningful information to parents to foster literacy skills for our students. Our teachers and reading coach put together packets of information to give parents with ideas and tools they can use to help their child at home. We also have many community resources and helpful links for parents on our website. In addition to the general education staff of each school, we have a system wide ESL consulting teacher, a Spanish translator, and a McKinney-Vento coordinator. These individuals work collaboratively to meet the training needs of the parents of our homeless, migrant, and non-native English speaking students.

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.

Blountsville Elementary School provides, to the extent practical, all information that parents need to know in the language spoken in the home. Our EL aide is fluent in Spanish and assists with translating during meetings and translating documents. As needed we request the services of the ESL/ Migrant Liaison. The district's ESL/ Migrant Home Liaison provides translations of documents going home to parents of English Language Learners. Informational flyers are also translated as well as handbooks, policies, parent involvement plans, newsletters, and parent surveys. Registration, medical, disciplinary, health, and sports related forms are also translated. When feasible, software services such as Transact are used. To the extent practicable, information posted to the parent involvement link on the district website is available in both English and Spanish. Recognizing the need to assist in bridging the gap of the linguistic diversity of students at school, communication handouts, signs, and directions are often translated into native languages spoken at the school. The ESL/ Migrant Liaison is also available to attend IEP meetings, disciplinary hearings, and parent/teacher conferences to serve as a translator for non-English speaking parents.

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.

An annual Parent Survey is conducted during the spring quarter of each year. Information is sent home with each student notifying parents about the importance of the survey and how to find the survey on the Internet. The survey is located on the Blountsville Elementary website and are also available on the Blount County School System website. Parents without Internet access are invited to the school to use our computer lab to take the survey. Information gained through an analysis of the completed surveys assist in planning and integrating parent involvement programs and activities which address parents' needs so that they are effective partners in the academic success of their child.

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 including our local school. 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. We have an EL aide in our building daily that is fluent in Spanish and is available to assist with translating. A Migrant Liaison is on staff at the Blount County Central Office, 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 beyond the school day (tutoring needs, clothing, hygiene, food, medical, immunizations, dental, vision, financial aide, school supplies, etc.). Our Migrant Liaison and our EL teacher work together to inform migrant families of support services offered (posters, flyers, school notifications, dedicated direct phone line, booths at local events to inform parents of EL and migrant students of support services, etc.).