

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 ACIP team, meets two times per year to review a needs assessment, Title I plan, and set-asides for the upcoming year. An Annual Title I Federal Programs Informational Meeting for all parents will be held at Hayden Middle School prior to September 30. The district Parent Involvement Specialist will provide a PowerPoint presentation that 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.

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.

The administration and staff of Hayden Middle School have a strong belief in the importance of parental involvement and, therefore, have put measures in place to offer parent meetings on a flexible schedule. Our annual meeting for parents of participating children will be offered after school. In addition, our district parent center will offer its parenting classes at varying times to include morning sessions and evening sessions. Hayden Middle School believes in involving all parents in all aspects of its Title I programs. Our process for how parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making is as follows: We will have a Leadership Team that will serve as representatives on decision-making committees and as a contact person for the Title I parents to answer questions about parental involvement and parents' rights. They keep parents informed of various committee work and receive input from parents for committee decisions. They assist in evaluating the parental involvement plan, and they assist in training other parents to be parent leaders.

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).

A parent representative serves on Hayden Middle Schools Continuous Improvement Team which meets throughout the year to review data, discuss Title I allocations, and make decisions about how to best support student learning within our school. Parents also have a voice through our PTO; parent and community surveys; and various meetings held at the school throughout the year. The Blount County Parent Resource Center is open daily to support parents. Throughout the year Hayden Middle School parents have various opportunities to be informed about our Title I

programs, the curriculum, and forms of academic assessment used. Parents can learn about priority goals in reading and math as well. They also have the opportunity to schedule parent-teacher conferences and are invited to participate in decisions related to the education of their child.

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

For the 2024-2025 school year, our money is being used to pay for the SMORE newsletter platform. This will be used to communicate with parents. This newsletter can be shared electronically and through social media. Data is collected through the platform on how many parents view the newsletter and how long they spent reading the newsletter.

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))

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 Hayden Middle 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. A Migrant Liaison is on staff at the Blount County Resource Center, with a direct phone line (Spanish speaking voicemail), 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, home-to-school connections, 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 aid, school supplies, etc.)
- Pre-K support and enrollment through 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, AP, ACT testing support, ACP testing support, dual enrollment, WorkKeys, Industry Credentials, military enlistment, etc.)
- Family Literacy activities

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))

In May of each year, Hayden Middle School assembles its CIP Committee to review, evaluate, and revise its Continuous Improvement Plan. There are two parents on the Committee who represent all the parents of the school. We also have one community stakeholder. During the review process, all parents are notified of the review through updates made available to the plan on the school's website. The notices make parents aware that the plan is under review, that a copy of the plan is available for review on the website and the parent center, and that parents have the right to give input regarding the revision of the plan. The notice also states that after the plan is finalized and approved, if a parent finds the plan to be unsatisfactory, they have the right to submit their concerns in writing to the school, and the school will submit their concerns to the central office at the same time that the CIP is submitted.

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

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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.

Hayden Middle School will accomplish this through its required annual Title I parent meeting held at the beginning of the school year. Parents will receive an overview of the state's academic content standards, academic achievement standards, and assessments. In addition, an explanation will be given regarding Title I, what services will be offered, and how parents have the right to be involved in their children's education. Parents will learn about their role in helping their child/children to be successful and the best ways to work in partnership with their child's teachers.

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.

Hayden Middle School's CIP committee works diligently to ensure that all parent materials and training are closely aligned with our school's identified goals. Staff often share best practices, discuss challenges, and develop strategies for engaging with parents about students' academic and behavioral needs. Each year we conduct a Family Survey and a Title I Parent Survey for parents to share their thoughts on school practices, helping staff understand and respond to parent needs.

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.

Hayden Middle School will continue to work with its teachers through in-services, faculty meetings, and grade-level meetings to understand the importance of parental involvement and that parents are our partners. This year, our CIP committee placed special emphasis on the need to ensure a closer connection between our school's identified goals and our parent involvement activities. Our faculty has a Leadership Team that develops strategies to improve school and home relations. These strategies include a monthly newsletter, a Family Color Run, Parent Picnic Day, and volunteer opportunities.

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.

Throughout the school year, the principal and teachers often send home newsletters and other written communication to communicate specific information to families. Teachers often schedule additional parent conferences at the convenience of parents in order to reach a mutual agreement between parents and teachers on ways to help children become more successful students. Recognizing the need to assist in bridging the gap of the linguistic diversity of students at school, communication handouts, signs, and directions can be translated into native languages upon request. Hayden Middle School parents also have access to the parent portal of PowerSchool which is a great tool for parents to have access to their students' attendance and academic records.

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. Surveys are sent home with each student and are e-mailed to all parents who provide a valid e-mail address. Surveys are also available on the Blount County School System website. The 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 parents are more effective partners in the academic success of their children. Hayden Middle assesses the effectiveness of the past year's parental involvement through feedback provided at parent and community stakeholder meetings and the system-wide parental involvement survey distributed in the spring of each school year. Analyses of such data provide direction for the modifications to the parental involvement plan for the upcoming year.

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))

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