



Dodge County School District

Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2026-2027

Wade Burnette, Superintendent



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Guide to Title I.....	2-3
DCSD Agreement.....	4
Annual Evaluation.....	5-6
The Connection	7
Let's Stay Connected.....	8
Activities to Build Partnerships.....	9
Family Engagement Resources.....	10
Pledge to Parents & Families.....	11
District Goals.....	12
Appendix.....	13

A Parent's Guide to Title I

<u>What is Title I?</u>	<u>What supports are provided through Title I?</u>	<u>All Dodge County Schools are Title I Schools</u>
<p>Title I, Part A is a federally funded program under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The purpose of Title I under ESSA is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.</p>	<p>The Title I Program offers a variety of supports which may include, but are not limited to additional teachers, support staff, instructional materials and supplies, technology to support student learning, tutoring, professional development for school staff and capacity building events for parents.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> Dodge County Primary School Dodge County Elementary School Dodge County Middle School Dodge County High School Dodge County Achievement Center </p>



A Parent's Guide to Title I

What role does Family Engagement play in Title I?

Family Engagement is an integral part of the ESSA law. Districts and schools receiving Title I funding must:

Ensure that high quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials are aligned with challenging state academic standards so that students, teachers, parents and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement.

Afford parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.

Parent & Family Engagement



For Families:

You can have a tremendous impact on your child's success in school. By partnering with the school and participating in the Title I program, you will:

- Show your child that you support and value his or her education
- Be able to closely monitor your child's progress
- Build stronger relationships between home and school
- Provide valuable input about school-wide programs

Research shows that students whose families are engaged perform better academically, socially, and behaviorally. Be sure to become involved in your child's school by:

- Communicating regularly with your child's teacher
- Attending academic-based family events and parent-teacher conferences
- Volunteering at school
- Joining the School Council
- Providing input concerning the Title I program at the school



The Dodge County School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

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

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning**
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school**
- (C) 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.**

DCSS provides stakeholders e.g., parents, teachers, students, school officials, and community partners multiple opportunities to jointly develop, review and revise Title I documents including the Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

The Federal Programs department provides Shared Decision Making (SDM) opportunities annually. Stakeholders are notified and invited via announcements posted on the district and school websites, social media, and fliers in Title I schools. Participating stakeholders will receive information and will be able to provide suggestions and ideas to improve the Federal Program Plans and Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP). Stakeholders are welcome to complete an on-line feedback form and/or at any time on the district website.

All feedback received will be considered when revising the plans for the 2026-2027 school year. Upon final revision, the district Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be incorporated into the CLIP which is submitted to the state. The District Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be made available on the district and Title I schools' websites, during the Annual Title I meetings.



ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Dodge County School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful engagement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools.

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

The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policy.

Each spring the PFE Coordinator creates a family engagement survey for each school. She also creates a Spanish version of the parent survey. All families in the system have the opportunity to complete the survey.

The survey is posted on the school website and on the schools' Facebook pages. The survey will contain questions to help identify barriers to greater participation by families in parental and family engagement activities.

It will also contain input questions about funding and building staff capacity for better communication with families.

The results are tallied and a summary of results is created for each school.



The Dodge County School District is committed to maximizing families' participation in students' education.

- **The district and schools will host activities and meetings at a variety of times to allow all parents the opportunity to be involved.**
- **A hybrid model of in-person activities at various times as well as online activities will be used in order to engage the greatest number of families.**
- **We hope to foster a partnership between the schools and parents that will improve student success.**



The Connection

What is it?		
The Connection	The Engagement Plan	The Compact
A comprehensive document joining our School Family Engagement Plans and Compacts together with the purpose of strengthening the bond between school and home.	Describes how our schools will provide opportunities to improve family engagement that will support student learning at school and home. All students and their families are invited and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. The school will provide information and as many opportunities as possible for the participation of all family members.	Explains what teachers, parents and students will do in an effort to work together to make sure that our students reach grade level standards. Discussed with families during parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year.

The Connection		
How is it revised?	Who is it for?	Where is it available?
The Connection is jointly developed and revised by our school's stakeholders. All families are invited to an annual Shared Decision Making Meeting held each spring. Families review and give feedback on the Engagement Plan, Compact, and Budget, including the 1% set aside for Parent Engagement. All feedback is collected and used to revise this document and improve program plans for the next year. Families also have an opportunity to complete an online Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey that seeks suggestions regarding the plan, compact and budget.	The Connection is for all students and their families. Our school encourages full participation in opportunities described in this document. We provide full opportunities for all parents to participate, including those with limited English, disabilities, migratory children and caretakers of students served in Neglected and Delinquent Centers.	Title I Handbooks are provided to parents and families via school websites, district website and in the Parent Resource Center located in the lobby of each school.



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

DCSS believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.

Ways to stay connected and informed:

- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- PowerSchool
- School Website
- Social Media (Facebook)
- School Messenger Call-outs
- Emails
- Phone Calls
- REMIND
- Parent- Teacher Conferences
- Flyers
- Newsletters

Access to Staff

- ❖ All teachers and staff are available through email. See the school webpage for contact information.
- ❖ Conferences can be scheduled directly with teachers or through the front office at each school.
- ❖ Meetings with teachers must be scheduled in advance to avoid class interruptions.



Activities to Build Partnerships

DCSS plans the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement and to support a partnership among school, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement. Meetings and events are scheduled at various times and in different formats to accommodate the needs of our families. These events may be held in person or virtually. This is a list of various in-common activities held at each school. See your students' school calendar for additional information.

Event	Focus	Date
Open House	Curriculum	7/30/2026
Title I Meeting	Informational	Oct 2026
PowerSchool Training	Technology	Ongoing
Parent-Teacher Conferences/PTO	Curriculum	10/15/26, 01/14/27, 3/18/27
21st Century Parent Workshops/Events	Curriculum	Ongoing
ESOL/Migrant Parent Workshops	Curriculum	Ongoing
Parent Support Cafe	Welcoming/Curriculum	TBA @ each school
Art Shows/Plays	Welcoming	Spring 2027
Band Concerts	Welcoming	TBA
Various Parent Meetings	Informational	Ongoing
Transitional Activities	Transition	May 2027
CTAE Advisory Council	SDM	TBA
Dual Enrollment Parent Meeting	Informational	April 2027
School Councils	SDM	TBA
Title I Parent Satisfaction Survey (Input Opportunity)	Shared Decision Making	Available Spring 2027
Shared Decision Making In-person Meeting	Shared Decision Making	Spring 2027
Grade Level and Athletic Awards	Welcoming/Transition	May 2027
Graduations	Transition	May 2027



<i>Family Engagement</i>	<i>Parent Resource Center</i>	<i>Volunteer Opportunities</i>
Our Family Engagement Coordinator is Ashley Manning. She is available to assist families in a variety of ways from finding resources, connecting with teachers and administrators and providing opportunities for you to learn how to help your student at home.	Visit the Resource Table in each school lobby to get pamphlets, brochures, and other resource materials to use at home with your child.	Families are encouraged to volunteer their talents at DCSS. Opportunities include, but are not limited to, School Council, PTO, and event volunteers.
Ashley Manning Office # 478-374-3783 Email: amanning@dodge.k12.ga.us	BOE Front Office Hours: Monday -Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	



- *Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is published in both English and Spanish and posted on the website or Facebook.
- *Provide training for staff on the value and contribution of parents, on ways to improve communication on ideas to build strong partnerships with families, on providing information in a user friendly format and responding to parents in a timely manner.
- *Partner with early learning centers (Pre-K/Head Start, Local Daycares) to provide resources to help prepare families and students for successful school transitions.
- *Share information related to school and parent engagement activities, meetings, workshops in English and Spanish.
- *Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events through messenger, Facebook, school website, newsletters and flyers.
- *Work with parents to develop relevant training and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- *Provide information for parents to better understand the GA Standards of Excellence and assessments for all grade levels.
- *Collaborate with stakeholders and community business leaders to increase awareness of family and community engagement programs.
- *Connect families to classes or support groups to help further enhance our parents' various educational levels.
- *Collect feedback from parents and family members after academic events in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for engagement activities.



2026-2027 GOALS

<i>District</i>
Increase student achievement and academic growth across all grade levels and content areas, as measured by Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) assessments, while reducing achievement gaps among student subgroups through high-quality instruction, targeted interventions, and data-driven decision-making.
Improve school climate and culture through positive behavior supports, increased student engagement, and reduced discipline incidents, as measured by school climate ratings, discipline data, and stakeholder feedback.
Recruit, develop, support, and retain highly effective teachers and leaders by providing meaningful professional learning, mentoring, career advancement opportunities, leadership development programs, and collaborative support structures that improve instructional effectiveness and student outcomes.



Appendix: List of Acronyms in the District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

- 1. BOE = Board of Education**
- 2. GSE = Georgia Standards of Excellence**
- 3. CLIP = Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan**
- 4. SDM = Shared Decision Making**
- 5. ESSA = Every Student Succeeds Act**
- 6. ESOL = English to Speakers of Other Languages**
- 7. LEA = Local Education Agency**
- 8. PAC = Parent Advisory Council**
- 9. PLC = Professional Learning Community**
- 10. TA = Technical Assistance**
- 11. CNA = Comprehensive Needs Assessment**
- 12. DCSS= Dodge County School System**
- 13. PFE= Parent and Family Engagement**