

August 1, 2023

**Nashville School District**

**600 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Nashville, AR 7182**

**870-845-3425**

**District Comprehensive Parent and Family Engagement Plan**

**School Year: 2023-2024**

**Superintendent: Douglas Graham**

**District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator: Tate Gordon**

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**Comprehensive Parent and Family Engagement Committee Members**

Douglas Graham: District Superintendent

Tate Gordon: District Assistant Superintendent, Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator

Kim Slayton: District Curriculum Coordinator

Amy Bearden: High School Teacher/Parent Facilitator

Kelli Webb: Elementary Counselor/Parent Facilitator

Lakan McAdams: Jr. High Counselor/Parent Facilitator

Kristy Young: Primary School Counselor/Parent Facilitator

Stacia Petty: Primary Teacher/Parent Facilitator

Steven Coffee: Elementary Building Administrator

Sara Horn: District ESOL Coordinator

Julie Wakley: Parent

Ashley Hale: Parent

Lacy Britt: Parent

Cassandra Evans: Parent

Beverly Tedford: Parent

Kaylee Hignight: Parent

Krysta Parker: Parent

Katie Clifton: Parent

### **Goal 1: Jointly Developed Expectations and Objectives**

**Describe how the LEA works with parents and families to develop and review relevant plans, policies, and strategies related to engagement, including establishing expectations and objectives.**

The Nashville School District (NSD) provides quality education for every student in our district. In support of the district's mission to enable today's students to thrive and compete in the "twenty-first-century workplace," NSD will develop and nurture partnerships with parents/guardians, students, and community

stakeholders. Furthermore, the district will involve parents/caregivers in all aspects of the various local, state, and federal programs offered in NSD schools. NSD will accomplish this by allowing parental stakeholders the following actions to be involved in the joint development of its district/school Parent and

Family Engagement Plan such as:

- Actively recruit parents/guardians to participate in a parental advisory capacity.
- Schedule meetings at convenient times and locations, allowing parental participants to be involved in a comprehensive review of the policy, budget, and programs for parent involvement.
- Establish campus-level contacts to implement parental involvement activities, as well as school initiatives. Kristy Young, Nashville Primary School (870-845-7340), Kelli Webb, Nashville Elementary School (870-845-7300), Lakan McAdams, Nashville Jr. High School (870-845-3418), Amy Bearden, Nashville High School (870-845-3261).
- Offer a flexible number of meeting times, such as meetings in the morning or evening, provide childcare during meetings, or make home visits as such services related to parental involvement.

### **Goal 2: Building Staff Capacity**

**Describe how the district will support all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective engagement practices.**

The Nashville School District will enhance the awareness and skills of teachers/staff, student service personnel, and administrators to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners. Kristy Young, Nashville Primary School (870-845-7340), Kelli Webb, Nashville Elementary School (870-845-7300), Lakan McAdams, Nashville Jr. High School (870-845-3418), Amy Bearden, Nashville High School (870-845-3261). NSD will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support resources necessary to assist and build the parental relationships of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities. Selected activities will improve student

academic achievement and school performance. Training for volunteers will be provided through the NSD Parent Teacher Organization. NSD mails out a quarterly parent newsletter to the entire school district with information on free lunches, tutoring, parent programs, parent resources, student study tips, free monthly books, and exciting educational opportunities within the district. NSD will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective PFE activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance such as:

- Campus visitation by the NSD Chief Academic Officer to serve in an advisory capacity to Title I campuses.
- Work with our schools to ensure that the required school-level PFE policies meet the Title I requirements and include the components in the school-Parent Compact.
- Offer a PFE Benefits training to our school personnel.
- A district meeting of parents/guardians, community members, and campus personnel will be held to provide feedback and receive input for campus plans, policies, and budget allocations.
- Community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, will be provided appropriate roles in parental involvement activities such as the district supermarket foodbank, free book searches by the junior auxiliary, project Christmas tree, partnerships with Cossatot Community college, and local church organizations for various events.
- Offer flexible meeting times, as well as Zoom meetings for virtual students, or students quarantined due to COVID.
- Provide information to parents about the school's program and include a parent information guide.
- Post the PFE plan on the school website and in student handbooks.
- Provide training for parents that will allow them to work with their children to help improve the student's academic achievement. This could include parental training on a phone notification system to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.

### **Goal 3: Building Parent Capacity**

**Describe how the LEA supports parents in helping with their student's academic success.**

NSD will assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school and involve parents to improve student academic achievement and school performance. NSD will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities. Provide resources and assistance to parents of children served by the school district/school, as appropriate, in understanding the state's academic

content standards, student academic achievement standards, and state and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments. The requirements of Title I include knowing how to monitor their child's progress and understand how to work with educators to support and improve the learning,

development, and whole health of the students. The district and schools may use parent-progress reports, as well as allow reasonable access to staff, and opportunities to observe and/or volunteer in their child's classroom to serve this purpose. The goal of the PFE program is to implement effective PFE activities

to improve student achievement and school performance. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. In supporting this goal, the district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools:

- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities.
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- Arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences.

These meetings may include teachers, other educators, and parents of the participating children. With the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, the district will educate its teachers, administrators, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents. The contributions of the parents will consist in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools with the goal of improving student achievement. The focus will be on the benefits of Parent and Family Engagement.

The school/district will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parental programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Translators are provided at the campus level for Spanish-speaking parents.
- District Mass Communication system is set up in English and Spanish based upon the primary language identified for the home.
- Translations for all Title I information will be provided in both English and Spanish.

#### **Goal 4: Coordination**

**Describe how the LEA will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide**

**additional supports, services, and resources to families that encourage and support parents in more fully**

**participating in the education of their children.**

The Nashville School District (NSD) understands the importance of involving parents/guardians, as well as community stakeholders, in promoting higher student achievement and general goodwill between the district and those it serves. Therefore, the district shall strive to develop and maintain positive relationships for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community; to achieve such goals, the district shall work to:

- Develop and disseminate a vibrant district parental involvement policy. This policy will be given to parents at Registration, Open House, Parent Teacher Conferences, and shall be included in the student handbooks annually.
- NSD will coordinate parental involvement activities with other programs or organizations such as Head Start programs, Reading First program, Early Reading First program, Even Start program, Parents as Teachers program, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-run preschool programs.
- NSD will post Parent and Family Engagement information posters in local businesses, laundry mats, civic centers, and community gathering places.

#### **Goal 5: Evaluation and Reservation**

**Describe how the LEA evaluates the content and effectiveness of its Engagement Program in improving the**

**academic quality of all schools. Describe how the LEA reserves and uses Title I funds for parent and family**

**engagement programs and activities.**

The Nashville School District (NSD) will survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement in the district. NSD will provide an opportunity for the parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including the analysis of the data collected. NSD will use findings from the evaluation process to:

- Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revisions.
- Provide suggestions for designing or redesigning the school improvement policies as they relate to parental involvement, COVID, and virtual options.
- Based on parental feedback gathered, parents felt like the district's cleaning and safety procedures in place last year helped prevent the spread of COVID and other viruses were satisfactory. NSD will continue to promote clean schools. Cleaning supplies have been budgeted to maintain healthy schools and academically friendly environments as possible.

- Parents also expressed satisfaction with how well the district kept them informed of positive COVID cases within the district as well as procedures and technology training for our virtual and quarantined students. We will use a new messaging system (Thrillshare), emails, social media, the NSD website, and parent newsletters.

Plan has been reviewed, uploaded on the district website, and is pending approval in Indistar.