

Charlton County School System

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2023-2024
Revised June 13, 2023
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What is Family Engagement?

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, including ensuring:

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) That 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Charlton County School System (CCSS) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe CCSS's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. The CCSS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement plans meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

Jointly Developed

During the annual FSP Input Meeting in June 2023, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement plan for the 2023-2024 school year. The district sent flyers to all parents informing them about this meeting and posted an announcement on the school district website. During this meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP). Additionally, each Title I school used its Parent Engagement Committee to review the district parent and family engagement plan before the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan was incorporated into the CLIP which was submitted to the state. Parents were welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to their child's school. All feedback received by June 12, 2023 was considered for revisions to this plan.

The district's strategy to distribute this plan is to post it on the district and school websites and in parent resource centers, disseminate it during the annual Title I school meetings in the fall, and email the link to all parents in a format and language they can understand.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the district Family School Partnership Coordinator (FSPC) will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the district and the FSPC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district and the FSPC will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals and school FSPCs to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district will convene a meeting in the spring for principals and school level FSPCs to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

Reservation of Funds

The CCSS will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY24 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this plan and as described in federal law. Furthermore, the CCSS will distribute 100 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I school hosted an annual Family School Partnership Input Meeting in May for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds could be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Comment cards and minutes from these meetings were reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget. If you have suggestions, please contact the FSPC in the district office.





Opportunities for Meaningful Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Annual District-Wide Stakeholders' Meeting ~ June 12, 2023

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Charlton County School System as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement plan and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed or distributed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website.

Family School Partnership Input Meetings ~ May 2023 - June 2023

During these months, each Title I school and the district will host a meeting for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement plans as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and topics for school staff training. Each Title I school will send flyers home, emails and Remind 101 text messages to parents to notify them about the date and time of the meeting. Information regarding the meeting will also be made available on the school websites.

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

**Unable to attend these meetings? Please call the
FSPC at 912-496-2596 to discuss the plan.**

Building Capacity

The CCSS will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build school and parent capacity for strong family engagement. This capacity will ensure effective engagement of parents and family members in supporting partnerships among the Title I schools, parents, and the community with the goal of improving student academic achievement. To build this capacity, the CCSS will implement districtwide activities and programs such as providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents and family members work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. With the teacher, families set student academic goals to be addressed through at-home learning activities and strategies.

Of Parents - The CCSS will work through its Title I schools to provide assistance to parents in understanding state and district academic information connected to student learning and progress. The district will also provide parents with information regarding the Title I program. Classes for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards, local academic assessments, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students, including alternative forms of assessment, will also be provided. The dates and locations for these classes will be posted on the district website and shared through each Title I school's website and/or newsletter.

In addition, the CCSS will coordinate pages on the district and school websites that will contain resources and materials, including parent guides, study guides, and practice assessments to help parents work with their children at home. Copies of these materials will be made available at all Title I schools for those families who may have limited internet access, including copies in Spanish. To assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), the CCSS media specialists will partner with Title I schools to host workshops for parents. The dates and times for these workshops will be determined and announced by each individual school and made available to parents.

The CCSS has established a Parent Engagement Committee (PEC) at each Title I school. The PEC is to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs. Community leaders and business partners will be invited to serve on the school's PEC. The district will also encourage collaboration and participation with community partners by utilizing video conferencing technology and recordings to accommodate the schedules of these valuable partners.

The CCSS will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs with Head Start and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In the spring, the elementary schools will host Kindergarten Ready days so parents may tour the schools and receive information to help prepare them and their children for kindergarten.

Of School Staff - The CCSS will conduct at least one training during the school year for principals and school level FSPCs to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the school. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools. The school level FSPC will also host a training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments and improving two-way communication with families. The FSPC at each Title I school will provide online resources and discuss strategies to increase parental engagement and improve school-family communication throughout the school year at monthly faculty meetings.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the CCSS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement meetings.

Beginning in May, each Title I school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school

websites for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will host a Spring Parent and Family Engagement Input meeting to facilitate group discussions to discuss the parent needs of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The CCSS will use the findings from the school meetings and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement plans.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district FSPC will, to the extent practicable, provide full opportunities for the participation of economically disadvantaged parents, homeless parents, parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 in a format, and to the extent practical, in a language such parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

Annual Parent Survey
May 2023 - June 2023

Parent Spring Input Meeting
May 2023 – June 2023
Local school sites & BOE

Stakeholders' Meeting
June 12, 2023
CCBOE

For Schools

Welcoming Schools' Training
August 2023
Local school sites

Principal and FSPC Meetings
Monthly

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the District Family School Partnership meeting.

This plan was adopted by the Charlton County School System on June 12, 2023 and will be in effect for the 2023-2024 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before November 1, 2023.

