

**PAGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

*NOTE: In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each local educational agency (LEA/School Districts, Charter Schools, Tribal Schools) that receives Title I, Part A funds must: 1) Develop jointly with, 2) Agree on with, and 3) Distribute to, the parents of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy.*

*The parent and family engagement policy must contain information required by section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and is integrated into the LEA's plan submitted to the State educational agency (SEA).*

**PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES**

NOTE: Each LEA's Parent and Family Engagement Policy must establish the district's **expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement** for students in the Title I, Part A program. [Section 1116, ESSA.]

The **PAGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS** agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- A. **Involve parents and family members** in jointly developing the local educational agency's Title I, Part A plan under section 1112, and the development of school support and improvement plans under section 1111(d).
- B. **Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary** to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities. These activities must improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education;
- C. **Coordinate and integrate** parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs;
- D. **Conduct**, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—
  - o Barriers to greater participation by parents/families in activities authorized by this section (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);
  - o The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
  - o Strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- E. **Use the findings of such evaluation** to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section; and
- F. **Involve parents in the activities of the schools**, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the LEA to adequately represent the needs of the population. This advisory board will help develop, revise, and review the parent and family engagement policy.

**PART II. A PARENT'S RIGHT TO KNOW**

On December 10, 2015, the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015* was signed into law. Section 1112(e)(B)(ii) of the law states that any school that receives Title I funds **must inform parents if their child is assigned a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements** at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned. **Parents have the right to know:**

- whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
- whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject area in which the teacher provides instruction;
- the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and the field of discipline of the certification or degree;
- and whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition, also as part of *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)* signed into law on December 10, 2015, Section 1112(e)(2) of ESSA states that parents of students in Title I schools have a **right to know about state or division policies regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by ESSA, including any policy, procedure, or parental right to opt students out of such assessments.**

With regard to state policy, all students enrolled in Virginia public schools are expected to take the applicable state tests. The *Virginia Board of Education Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* state:

“In kindergarten through eighth grade, where the administration of Virginia assessment program tests are required by the Board of Education, each student shall be expected to take the tests” and “each student in middle and secondary schools shall take all applicable end-of-course SOL tests following course instruction” (8VAC20-131-30).

In addition, the Virginia regulations nor the Page County Public Schools Policy Manual do not provide for what is sometimes referred to as an “opt out policy” for students regarding the Virginia assessments. If parents refuse to have their student participate in one or more of the required Virginia assessments, they should be aware that their student’s state assessment score report will reflect a score of “0” for any test that is refused. If you would like to receive information about this topic, please contact John R. Van Wyck, M.S., Director of Student Services & Federal Programs by phone at 540-743-6533.

**PART III. ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE FOR PARENTS**

Websites that will be helpful to parents when assisting their children with school work:

Parent Involvement in Schools: <http://www.projectappleseed.org/index.html>  
Tutoring in almost any academic areas: <http://www.khanacademy.org/>  
Tutoring and help in most academic areas and all levels: <http://www.cliffsnotes.com/>

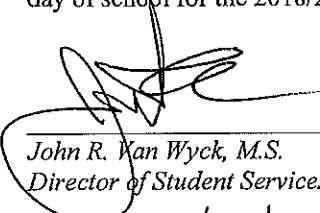
**PART IV. HOW TO ACCESS PAGE COUNTY’S VDOE SCHOOL PROFILE:**

- Go to - <http://schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/page-county-public-schools> to review Page County Public School’s Quality Profile.

**PART V. ADOPTION**

This LEA’s Parental and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by August 22, 2018 Division Advisory Council (DAC) Minutes.

This policy was adopted by the Page County Public Schools on August 20, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of the 2018/2019 school year. The LEA will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before the first day of school for the 2018/2019 school year.

  
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John R. Van Wyck, M.S.  
Director of Student Services & Federal Programs

8/20/19  
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(Date)