



SCHLEY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy
2020-2021
Last Updated May 14, 2019

The Schley County School System, in support of strengthening student academic achievement, receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

The Schley County School System agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the state Department of Education.
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

Parental involvement 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 ESEA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The Schley County School System will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

List of how parents will be involved in the development of the district parent and family engagement policy, Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP), and how parents will be involved in the development and review of the School Improvement/Title I School-wide and if applicable the Comprehensive Support and Improvement and the Targeted Support and Improvement plans.

- Title I planning committee meetings for all areas of the Title I program, including the CLIP, Improvement Plans, Parent policies, and School-Parent Compact.
- Posted announcements on the websites
- Announce meetings (websites, notices sent to parents, and/or newspapers)
- Maintain agendas, minutes, and sign-in sheets
- Parents will serve on planning committees to develop, review, and revise Comprehensive Needs Assessment.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Schley County School System will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to 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:

List of how the district will provide support and technical assistance to all its Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement practices inclusive of school parent and family engagement policies/plans, school-parent compacts, and all Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

- Principals serve on their Title I planning committee
- E-mails and phone calls to provide direct coordination and support
- Administrative monthly meetings
- Share Survey results with Principals
- Provide principals with resources for training faculty and staff
- Provide principals with parent resources for posting on websites

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Schley County School System will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement 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 involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

List of actions for how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents and family members will play.

- Surveys will be collected at meetings
- Annual Needs Assessment/Evaluation surveys will be sent home by students for parental input
- Results of all surveys will be shared with the schools and with parents at meetings
- The Title I coordinator/Title I teachers will be responsible for disseminating surveys, collecting, and compiling all survey results and summarize
- Parents and planning committee members will utilize survey results toward improvements and identifying barriers.
- Post District Parental Involvement policy on the District website with request for evaluation feedback.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The Schley County School System will involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

- The Schley County School System is not required to spend 1 percent of its funds towards parental involvement due to its allocation of less than \$500,000.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The **Schley County School System** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs. Other programs such as, the Head Start and the Schley County Preschool Programs encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

List of how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families such as public preschool programs or organizations to help students transition to elementary, middle, high, and postsecondary schools or careers.

- Provide transition meeting for fifth grade students and 9th grade orientation.
- Involvement with Tri County Head Start transition process.
- Coordinate with the PEECH program if necessary
- Representatives serve on the Title I Planning Committee
- Provide Principals with transition resources from DOE/Title I.
- Plan Annual meeting with EIP
- Provide college preparation night for Seniors.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The Schley County School System will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State academic standards
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators

List of activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success.

Activities:

- Presentation at Title I Annual meeting – PowerPoint
- Presentation of Georgia Milestones at Orientation Night

- Orientation for Fifth graders during Orientation Night
- Workshop presentations
- Provide time for Parent/Teacher conferences
- Provide availability of website links, especially Infinite Campus
- Provide parent training activities
- Provide online information/activities such as PIRC and newsletters
- Provide opportunities for parental input through surveys
- Parent meetings
- Provide parent monthly newsletters in both English and Spanish
- Provide translator contact information in the Parent-Student handbook

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The Schley County School System will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff 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 schools by:

List of activities such as workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners. Information includes how the district and/or schools will provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.

- Utilize training Modules to Build Parent Involvement Capacity
- Provide information at faculty meetings related to the value and utility of contribution of parents.
- Utilize the Safe Schools web-based resource
- Provide information in English and Spanish when possible.

ADOPTION

This LEA parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on 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 Annual District meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Schley County School System on May 14, 2019 and will be in effect for the period of the 2020-2021 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 04, 2020.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)