

Middle/High School Parent & Family Engagement Policy
2020-2021
Revised: May 14, 2019

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Schley County Middle/High** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The **Schley County Middle/High** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1118:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
- Update the school parent involvement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parental involvement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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 1118 of the ESEA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Schley County Middle/High will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Description of how parents will be involved in the development of the school parental involvement policy and how parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parental involvement programs.

- A Planning Committee, to include teachers and parents, will plan, review, and complete an evaluation for improving the SCMHS Title I program, to include budgetary expenses for promoting and maintaining parent involvement.
- Implement needs assessment surveys on a regular basis.
- Conduct parent surveys and utilize results for program improvement.
- Distribute Title I program information to Leadership Team, School Council, etc.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Schley County Middle/High will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parental involvement policy, the school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Description of when the school will hold the Annual Title I meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation as well as the parents' rights to be involved.

- Publish date and time of meeting through home notes to parents of participating students, school website, email (when available), local newspapers and school marquee sign.
- Notify Planning Committee of meeting date and time.
- Utilize parent needs assessment results to determine a convenient time
- Incorporate PowerPoint program detailing various aspects of the overall Title I program, School-Wide Plan, the School-Parent Compact, and School Parent and Family Engagement policy.
- Provide required documents to parents to include School Parent and Family Engagement Policies, School-Parent Compact
- Maintain agendas, minutes, and sign-in sheets for all meetings.

COMMUNICATIONS

Schley County Middle/High will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.
- Information related to the school and parent 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:

Description of how the parental involvement policy will be distributed to parents and how the school is going to communicate with parents including information about how the school 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.

- Coordinate parent conferences for the convenience of parents.
- Coordinate differing locations for meetings if the need arises.
- Provide transportation to and from meetings for parents if the need arises.
- Timely information about the Title I programs;
- Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- Opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible;
- Schedule meetings at different times during the day to accommodate parent's needs.
- Provide Title I program information to parents in the Parent-Student handbook

- Conduct grade level parent nights to inform and explain Georgia Milestones assessments, their results and meanings.
- Convene an Annual meeting to explain the Title I program, the school's curriculum, academic assessments to measure student progress, and expected proficiency levels.
- Encourage and conduct multiple parent-teacher conferences to discuss student achievement and plans for improvement.
- Conduct a 6th and 9th grade orientation for parents of 5th and 8th graders respectfully, to explain the curriculum, expectations, and requirements for the next year.
- Make accessible to parents the Title I monthly parent newsletter in English and Spanish in paper and/or website form
- Make accessible to parents school forms in English and Spanish in paper and website form
- Provide translator contact information in the Parent-Student handbook

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Schley County Middle/High will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

Description of the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact.

- Combine the efforts of the Title I planning committee and/or the School Improvement committee to review and make necessary changes to the current school-parent compact
- Invite participating parents in the planning and review process and to make necessary changes to the current school-parent compact
- Maintain and have readily available all agendas, minutes, and sign-in sheets for any and all meetings that involve the current school-parent compact
- Encourage and record any feedback or comments from parents for all meetings

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Schley County Middle/High will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Description of how the district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.

- Recruit and coordinate parents for involvement in activities and programs to increase parental educational involvement

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Schley County Middle/High will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement

- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The State’s academic content standards.
 - The State’s student academic achievement 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.

Description of activities and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student’s academic success.

- Annual Title I meeting and other necessary meetings
- Information on school Website and Facebook
- Website link to PIRC resources
- Parent-Teacher conferences
- Access to online Infinite Campus program for progress monitoring of student grades
- Initial Phase of 1 to 1 rollout of student devices involving parent training opportunities
- Title I Annual Meeting to include reading and/or mathematics activity sessions for students and parents
- Access to classroom teacher web pages
- Title I information on the school website
- MOWR parent orientation
- FAFSA parent information meeting

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Schley County Middle/High will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school by:

Description of activities that will be used with school staff to build their capacity to work with parents as equal partners.

- Professional learning to include resources from sources such as Safe Schools
- Access to training modules to help build parent involvement capacity from GaDOE website

Schley County Middle/High will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request by:

Description of actions the school will take to provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.

- Provide survey opportunities for parents
- Compile survey responses from parents
- Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities