



## DISTRICT TITLE I FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2025-2026

Parental engagement involves consistent, reciprocal, and meaningful communication between parents and the school. This communication generally centers on a student's academic learning and participation in school activities.

- *Parents play an integral role in assisting with their child's learning.*
- *Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.*
- *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.*
- *Other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA are implemented.*

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### FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

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To boost student academic achievement, Camden County Schools (CCS) has developed this Family Engagement Plan (FEP). It outlines the district's expectations for family involvement and guides the actions and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in our Title I schools. This plan demonstrates CCS' commitment to engaging families in their children's education, building strong relationships with them, and enhancing the skills of teachers in Title I schools. Our goal is to implement family engagement strategies that will help us achieve our objectives of increasing student academic success and graduating every student.

When schools, families, and community members work together to support learning, students achieve more, stay in school longer, and enjoy their educational experience. Title I Part A mandates parent and family engagement at every level, including in the development and implementation of district and school plans and in carrying out improvement initiatives. Section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) details the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools to involve parents in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, CCS will collaborate with its Title I schools to ensure that all required school-level parental engagement practices meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and include a School-Parent Compact as outlined in Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.

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### JOINTLY DEVELOPED

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At each school, stakeholders are presented with the school family engagement plan and the district family engagement plan for their review and input. At the district level, the District Family Engagement Plan is discussed during meetings of the Superintendent Steering Committee, Superintendent Student Advisory Committee and the Partnership Alliance Team (PAT), with input from their members being considered.

The Community members, business owners, and government officials participate in the PAT meetings. During Parent Academy Meetings (PAT) parents further review, discuss, and offer input on the Consolidated Local Education Agency (LEA) Improvement Plan (CLIP). The plan is also shared electronically; stakeholders are provided an opportunity to provide feedback.

Parent feedback from local school Title I meetings and the Title I Annual Parent Survey is vital for revising the district's FEP. Once finalized, the FEP is incorporated into the CLIP and submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

Meeting participants who could not attend were notified via email and offered an alternative review opportunity. Additionally, a link to the CLIP is accessible on the system website for one week after its final development. Parents are always welcome to submit comments and feedback on the plan by contacting their child's school or the Director of Federal Programs in writing.

All received feedback is considered during the FEP revision for the current school year. The CCS FEP is accessible on the district website, reviewed during Title I Annual Parent Meetings at local schools, distributed via the Title I Parent Handbook, and available in all Title I school Parent Resource Centers. Concerns, questions, or complaints from parents can be addressed through the Camden County Schools' Complaint Procedures, detailed on the Title I page of the system website.

During meetings stakeholders were invited to participate and provide input on Camden County Schools' Family Engagement Plan for 2025-2026.

To involve parents and family members in jointly developing its plan under Section 1112, and support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of ESSA, the district took the following actions:

- CCS provided a copy of the CLIP for review.
- Disseminated the CLIP presentation, recording, and feedback form to the Superintendent Steering Committee, inviting internal stakeholders, paraprofessionals, students, parents, and community members to partner in the improvement plan's development.
- Shared the same, presentation, and feedback form with staff and posted them on school and system websites for external stakeholders.
- Reviewed the CLIP, FEP, and action plans at the meeting.
- Offered parents, families, and community members an opportunity to provide comments and feedback.
- Informed parents and families of actions they could take to engage in their child's academic achievement.
- Incorporated the FEP into the CLIP upon final revision and submitted it to the state.
- Posted the final district FEP on the system and school websites and made it available in parent resource centers.

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### ***EVERY STUDENTS SUCCEEDS ACT REQUIREMENTS***

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Camden County Schools (CCS) has developed the Family Engagement Plan (FEP) that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement. CCS 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 FEP that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The

FEP describes how CCS will implement a number of specific activities, and it is incorporated into the plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

**The Camden County Schools agree to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:**

- To build positive relationships between schools and family members, the 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 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 practices 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 ESSA.
- 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.
- Should the plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, not be satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will consider 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(b) of the ESSA

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**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

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The Camden County Schools 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. The assistance may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education. The following assistance will be provided:

- Title I Parent Involvement staff will provide assistance to the schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being met, school personnel understand FEP strategies and activities are being implemented with fidelity.
- Each school will have access to a Title I Parent Involvement staff who will provide support for and assist in the development and provision of effective activities.
- Notices and other important Georgia Department of Education parent involvement initiatives will be provided to administrators and interventionists.
- Documentation and checklists will be provided to administrators outlining activities, including professional development, and including timelines for due dates.

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### **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVALUATION**

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Each year, Camden County Schools evaluates the Family Engagement Plan (FEP) and its activities to enhance the academic quality of Title I schools. This evaluation, conducted through an annual parent survey and stakeholder meetings, identifies barriers to greater parental participation, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or are from any racial or ethnic minority background.

The evaluation also assesses the needs of parents and family members in supporting their children's learning. The school district will use these findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and revise the FEP as needed.

Specifically, for the evaluation:

- In partnership with stakeholders, the school district will use evaluation findings from the FEP and its activities to design more effective parental involvement strategies.
- The annual parent survey will help the district evaluate the FEP's effectiveness in improving academic quality in Title I schools.
- Administrators are required to complete an annual evaluation and provide a summary of parent survey and/or focus group results.
- School-level results are shared by knowledgeable participants, typically those who attended school Title I meetings, during the district CNA meetings.
- Parents provide valuable input during district-level meetings conducted by the Title I Director.

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## RESERVATION OF FUNDS

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For FY26, Camden County Schools (CCS) will reserve 1% of its total Title I funds to meet the parent and family engagement requirements outlined in this plan and Section 1116 of ESSA. This entire 1% will be distributed to Title I schools to support their local family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance to each Title I school to help them develop a suitable family engagement budget based on their needs assessments and parent recommendations. The school district will partner with parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools to make decisions on how the 1% of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent.

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## COORDINATION OF SERVICES

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Camden County Schools will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs. The following steps are taken to encourage and support parents to actively participate in the education of their children:

- Camden County Schools will partner with families by providing opportunities to participate in adult development and parent education activities.
- Families may receive supports related to critical needs, family aspirations for their child, and community resources.
- To assist PK students to transition to Kindergarten, CCS offers Kindergarten Camps. The Camp assists students with being familiar with the new school building, their teachers, and staff.
- In high school, students and parents will participate in college nights to gauge an interest in attending an institution of higher learning.

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## BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS AND FAMILIES

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Camden County Schools (CCS) will build parents' capacity for strong involvement, fostering effective school-parent connections and community partnerships, ultimately improving student academic achievement through the following activities:

- Parents are provided support to understand the standards, assessments, and Title I requirements, typically during annual meetings and then as needed or during school functions.
- Parents are provided written information and/or time to learn how to monitor their child's work through PowerSchool.

- Parents have the opportunity to request additional information through teachers and administrators, as well as other support staff.
- Documents and resources are typically made available in hard copy or via web links.
- Camden County Schools will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their child's academic achievement.
- Parents are invited to workshops, family nights, Math and Science Fairs, conferences, reading nights, and a host of other activities identified through parent involvement surveys and achievement needs.
- Technology devices (i.e., computers, laptops), as well as a wealth of parent information, are made available to parents on websites and are in the parent resource rooms at each school.

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### **BUILDING STAFF CAPACITY**

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Camden County Schools (CCS) will conduct ongoing trainings for principals and schools. These trainings will focus on strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build community ties. Delivered to the faculty and staff of all Title I schools, the trainings will emphasize creating welcoming environments, fostering two-way communication with families, utilizing parent contributions, and collaborating with parents as equal partners.

CCS will build bonds between parents and schools by:

- Professional learning will be provided quarterly to staff on how to effectively communicate and work with parents.
- Training on effective communication will focus on simplifying language in communications/conferences so that all parents understand the messages.
- CCS will take the following actions to ensure that 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:
- Parents receive information by paper copy, district, school, and/or teacher websites, Facebook, emails, and texts in understandable and uniform formats and to the extent practicable in home languages as requested.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.
- Additional training is scheduled as needed or desired.

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### **ADOPTION**

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This districtwide Parent and Family Engagement Plan was jointly developed and agreed upon by parents and family members of children in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the collaboration at the District CLIP meeting.

This plan was adopted by the Camden County Schools on May 23, 2025, and will be in effect for the period of the 2025-26 school year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before 10/1/25.

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*(Signature of Authorized Official)*

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*(Date)*