

DALLAS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY/PLAN FY 2021-2026

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DALLAS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan
2021 - 2026
As required by section 116(a) (1) (2) (B) (C) (D) (i) (E)
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Dallas County School System agrees to implement the following requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A Programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent engagement policy/plan meets the requirements of section 1116(c) (4) of the ESSA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(d) (2) (D) of ESSA.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan into its district plan developed under section 1116(a)(1)(2)(B)(C)(D)(E) of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title I Part A parent and family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Dallas County School System and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1116 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1116 of ESSA, 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.
- (If and when funding level requires this part): The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than ninety percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. The remaining ten percent of the one percent shall be used for district initiatives.

The Dallas County School System will be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and expects Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures under this definition:

- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental engagement and expects that its Title 1 schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures following this definition: Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents or guardian in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including *ensuring-*
 - (A) *That parents or guardians play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
 - (B) *That parents or guardians are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
 - (C) *That parents or guardians 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 ESSA.*

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The Dallas County School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its LEAS parental involvement policy/plan under section 1116(a) (3) (A) (C) (D) (i-IV)

- Invite parents to serve on the LEA Advisory Committee, composed of parents, teachers, students, and administrators will meet bi-annually for up-dates on Title I funds and expenditures,
- Establish a Parent Contact Leader Team composed of parents from each school site that will meet biannually to review, discuss and revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan. The parent facilitators will train this team on the Parent, and Family Engagement Requirements Compliance Section 1116 "Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)"
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy/plan in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized activities and use the finding to design more effective strategies and revise the policy/plan

2. The Dallas County School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and to implement "evidence-based" strategies under section 1116 (a) (2XE) of the ESSA:

- Each school will notify parents of the date of the Annual Title I meeting and invite parents to attend.
- Parents will be made aware that school's policy/plan is being evaluated and given the opportunity for input by completing a parent and family engagement survey on which they may make comments or submit written comments to teacher, administrator, parent facilitators, or the federal program director.
- Schools implement "evidence-based" curricular
- Parents or guardians will be encouraged to serve on each school's Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee
- Notification will be provided to parents or guardians through flyers, school's newsletters, monthly calendars, marque, telephone calling system, and the LEA's website (www.dallask12.org)

3. The Dallas County School System will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve students' academic achievement and school performance under section 1116 (d)(e)(2)(D):

- The Local Education Agency has parent facilitators that work with each Title I school's administrators and parent and family engagement chairperson, and parents or guardians to develop parent and family engagement activities that meet the needs of the Title I parents or guardians such as:
 - A. *school-parent compacts*
 - B. *parent or guardian computer training*
 - C. *implement / "CARE" positive parenting/ character education/ mentoring program*
 - D. *parents or guardians volunteer program*
 - E. *bi-annual parenting meetings*
 - F. *fatherhood initiative.*

- The schools will hold meetings annual with the assistance of the Local Education Agency that will focus on understanding the interpreting standardized test data.

4. The Dallas County School System will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, HIPPPY, (Home Instruction Program for Parents of Preschool Youngster) LEA's Pre-K Program, Extended Day Program, Community and Faith Based Organizations, under section 1116 (a)(2)(C) by:

- offering parents of preschool youngster an opportunity to participate in an early learning programs: HIPPPY and LEA's Pre-K Program
- providing transition opportunities with Head Start Agency for children who will be

- attending schools within the system
- partnering with a community-faith based after-school tutoring program
- implementing the "I CARE" Character Education/ Mentoring/ Community Partnership Program.

REQUIRED BUILDING CAPACITY FOR PARENT and FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

1. The Dallas County School System will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve students' academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below under session 1116(e)(2)(4)():

- A. The school system will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement such as literacy training, volunteering, using technology as appropriate, and other reasonable support to foster parental engagement by:
 - a. *training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents (LEA Parent Contact Team)*
 - b. *parent-teachers conference*
 - c. *bi-annual parenting meetings*
 - d. *Statewide parents' visitation held in October of each year*
 - e. *"I CARE" Parenting/ Character Education / Mentoring Program*
 - f. *Weekly computer training.*
 - g. *Promote an OPEN DOOR POLICY in the schools*
 - h. *Encourage each Title/ school to establish a Parent Resource Room*

ADOPTION

This Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan has been developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This Policy/Plan was adopted and/or approved by the Dallas County School System Board of Education, and will continually be in effect, with annual review until 2020. Revisions will occur as necessary for compliance. The school district will distribute this policy/Plan to all parents of the Dallas County School System in abridged form in the annual school's handbook. This policy may be viewed in full on the system website (www.dallask12.org); and at the Central Office. A copy may be obtained upon request at the central office, schools, or from the parent facilitator at the Resource Center.

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