



Parent and Family Engagement District Plan 2025-2026

Revised May 20, 2025

WHAT IS PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) That 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).



ABOUT THE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Calhoun City Schools has developed jointly with parents and family members of participating children, a parent and family engagement plan. This plan establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the district will implement parent and family engagement activities. This plan is incorporated into the district's plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education for Title I schools. Calhoun City Schools will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members district wide. These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful parent and family member participation. The district will work with all schools to ensure that school-level parent and family engagement activities meet Title I requirements and include a school-parent compact. The district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, migrants, economically disadvantaged or of any racial or ethnic minority background. This includes providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format to the extent practicable in a language parents understand.

If any parent of participating children feel the plan is unsatisfactory, the district will submit the plan to the state with the parent comments. The district follows the federal definition of family engagement as stated in Section 1116 of ESSA.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Calhoun City Schools collects feedback from parents and family members on its district Parent and Family Engagement Policy on a continuous basis throughout the school year. The evaluation and revision process of the plan begins in the spring prior to the new school year.

- At the fall and spring System Governance Team meetings, which includes parents, teachers, administrators and other community stakeholders, participants are invited to discuss the current plan and submit feedback.
- In the spring of each school year, the schools will host open School Governance Team meetings where stakeholders are invited to participate in review of the current Parent and Family Engagement Plan and School Improvement Plan for next year. Parents and stakeholders will be invited through school newsletters, website, and social media postings. Parents, staff, and community stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions.
- Additionally, information will be collected from parents, staff, and community stakeholders through an annual survey. Parents and stakeholders will be able to access the survey through the website, newsletters and social media. The information collected will assist the district in identifying academic areas of focus such as literacy and family engagement activities. The information will be used in conjunction with school level improvement plans when developing the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan.
- The input collected through the sessions and surveys will be incorporated into the district Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The final draft will be shared with the CCS Board of Education prior to the beginning of each school year.
- The district Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be posted to the district website under the Federal Programs page at the beginning of each school year and shared with parents during the annual Title I meeting.
- Parent feedback is critical to the evaluation and development of the district Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Stakeholders will have the ability to send comments and/or suggestions throughout the school year to the Director of Federal Programs. These comments and suggestions will be shared with the System Governance Team and System Leadership teams when reviewing the district plan.
- The district plan will be posted on the district website and made available at the school Title I meetings.



STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOLS

Calhoun City Schools will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. This will include: district level support and resources to school staff and parents on developing school-parent compacts; developing district and school level goals; building and developing partnerships with parents that will help support the students in achieving school academic goals; and a system level timeline for revising and signing school-parent compacts.

The Director of Federal Programs will be responsible for providing the district level training during the summer leadership retreat and will continue to be available throughout the year for any additional technical assistance training requested by the schools or parents. Monthly meetings will be held with school Family Engagement Coordinators to review family engagement plans and activities.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

Calhoun City Schools will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan in improving the academic quality of our Title I, Part A schools.

As part of the annual parent/student/stakeholder survey, individuals will be given the opportunity to provide input related to the evaluation of the district and school level Parent and Family Engagement Plan. This survey is conducted annually and is posted on the website. The Federal Programs Director and district level support collaborate together to create a survey that addresses all of the federal program areas. Announcements are sent home in the school newsletter, Facebook/Twitter postings, and teacher messages. The data will be shared with the School Governance Team and system Leadership Team for review and discussion as they revise the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan and identify family engagement activities.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Calhoun City Schools will involve the parents and family members of children in decisions about how parent and family engagement funds are spent. Parents/stakeholders will be provided information about the Title I budget during the schools' annual Title I meetings and School Governance Team meetings. CCS will ensure that 90% of the 1% reserve goes directly to all Title I schools through school Fund 150 budgets.

Parents/stakeholders will be able to provide feedback orally and/or in writing for the system to review.

Parent and stakeholder surveys will also provide an opportunity for parents to provide input/feedback regarding the use of Title I funds. The Title I budget will also be reviewed during the school and system level Governance Team meetings.

Parents/stakeholders are encouraged to give input; ask questions; and make suggestions for consideration related to the Title I budget.



COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Calhoun City Schools coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible with other relevant federal, state, and local programs, such as: ***Tallatoona Head Start, Family Resource Center, and community church preschool programs.***

CCS conducts a Kindergarten Round Up each year by visiting each of the preschool programs to share information about kindergarten registration. Information is also published with local media outlets and to the system website and other social media accounts. Each school holds an Open House at the beginning of the school year. Parent and students are given opportunities for tours of the facilities and staff are on hand to answer any questions. Summer camps are hosted by Calhoun Community Education for PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students to allow them an opportunity to experience school prior to the first day of school. CCS also goes out into the community using Jacket Junction Mobile Learning Lab to work with children between the ages of 0-4 years old. The children are introduced to early literacy skills and encouraged to enroll in a pre-k program.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Calhoun City Schools will build parents' capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy and using technology 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

CCS works very hard to help parents have a good understanding of state curriculum and school resources available to assist them in supporting their children. CCS provides an opportunity twice a year for parents to schedule parent-teacher conferences to discuss their child's academic growth or any challenges that their child has. These parent-teacher conferences are held in the early fall and late winter. These conferences include information on the state academic standards, local assessments and tracking, and information specific to the needs of their students.

The primary and elementary schools hosts parent meetings with topics ranging from a typical school day or a specific subject like Literacy night and STEM night. At the middle and high school level, parent meetings are held to provide parents with information about applying to college, CTAE courses, and dual enrollment. Special session topics are also held periodically such as: how to navigate parent portal to track your student's progress; social media/internet safety; information shared during parent-teacher conferences; and special sessions for our non-English speaking parents. These sessions are advertised system-wide on all social media accounts and are open to all parents/stakeholders. The schools may also post video recordings on-line that allows parents who are not able to physically attend the parent sessions or school meetings to still receive important content.

All school-wide or system-wide information is provided to parents in English and Spanish. Parent sessions are provided in both languages as well. School newsletters and school system messages can all be translated into the parent's preferred language. Translators are also available to teachers for parent meetings, especially parent-teacher conferences.

OF STAFF - Calhoun City Schools will educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, 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 through annual professional learning opportunities and parent survey results. Teachers are required to make a positive contact with parents at the beginning of the school year and are encouraged to follow this up throughout the school year. Through parent-teacher conferences, teachers are encouraged to communicate openly with parents about their concerns but to always finish on a positive note about the student. Teachers are encouraged to communicate with parents on a regular basis through a newsletter, email, and text messages about school events or big assignments that are happening at the school.

Parents - Mark Your Calendars!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEANINGFUL INPUT

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of Calhoun City Schools' district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of CCS students are eligible to receive Title I services and invited to attend meeting opportunities throughout the year. CCS values parental input and wants them to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students reach our student academic achievement goals.



State of the District Message ~ August 2025

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Superintendent and Principals of Calhoun City Schools as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement plan and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2025-2026 school year at their convenience. The State of the District Message will be sent out to parents and posted to the system and school websites. Notices regarding this message will be posted to social media and emailed to all parents.

School Improvement Meetings ~ April/May 2026

In the spring, each Title I school will host a School Governance Team meeting with the purpose of collecting feedback and input related to the district and school improvement plans, the system's parent and family engagement policy as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and topics for school staff professional development. Each Title I school will send invitations via school newsletters, Remind notices, and social media to notify parents about the dates and times of the meetings.

District Stakeholder Surveys ~ April/May 2026

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit www.calhounschoools.org/about-ccs/title-1 or www.calhounschoools.org/departments/federal-programs to review documents and leave your input.
TO BE UPDATED

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the Director of Federal Programs will communicate and collaborate with school and district staff to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

ADOPTION

This district-wide Parent and Family Engagement Plan is developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I schools as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual Title I meetings, System Governance Team meetings, and district survey.

This plan is shared with the Calhoun City Schools Board of Education prior to the beginning of school. The school district will post this plan on the website and make accessible to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children in the school Family Resource Centers before or during the first week of fall semester. Parents may also request a copy be mailed to them by contacting their child's school.

District

Veterans Day Parade

November 11 @ 1:30 p.m.

Downtown Calhoun

Annual Parent Survey

April - May, 2026

On-Line

Calhoun Early Learning Academy

(JJ, PreK-Kg)

Open House

Class specific Open House times

July 31

Annual Title I Meeting

September 12

CELA Cafeteria

Calhoun Primary/Elementary

(1st-6th grade)

Open House

July 31, 2025

3rd & 6th Grades 12:00-2:00

2nd & 5th Grades 2:00-4:00

1st & 4th Grades 4:00-6:00

CPS Annual Title I Meeting

September 25 5:30-7:00 p.m.

CPS Cafeteria

CES Annual Title I Meeting

September 30 5:30 p.m.

CES Cafeteria

Parent Teacher Conferences

October 2025

STEM Family Night

TBD

Field Days

May 11-14, 2026

Calhoun Middle School

(7th-8th grade)

Open House

7th Grade

July 31, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

8th Grade

July 31, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Annual Title I Meeting

Friday, Sept. 19

12:00-1:00 p.m.

CMS Parent Lunch Invitation

TBD

Calhoun High School

July 31, 2025

9th Grade

12:00-2:00

10th-12th Grades

3:00-6:00 p.m.

Annual Title I Meeting

Friday, Sept. 19

12:00-1:00 p.m.

Apply to College Day

November