

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Evans Middle School 2025-2026 School Year Revised July 29, 2025

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Evans Middle School 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(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Evans Middle School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- 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 parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement 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 ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA 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 parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement 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 ESSA

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

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Evans Middle School 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.

• Invite all parents to join the Family Engagement committee to share ideas and involve them in the annual review and revision of the policy to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The Family Engagement Committee met in May 2024 for all parents and stakeholders. Other input meetings will be held periodically, with the final meeting to be held in May 2025. The Annual Title I Parent Meeting will be on August 25, 2025. Feedback forms will be provided at each input meeting for parents who are unable to attend the in-person meeting. Parents may submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activity or meeting. They may also email the Family Engagement Coordinator (courtney.lorow@cowetaschools.net) or the Principal (jessica.slaton@cowetaschools.net) to provide suggestions and input.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Evans Middle School 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 parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

• Evans Middle 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 in August 25, 2025. Please reference the newsletter, Facebook, flyer, and/or email for any changes in meeting date. The Annual Title I meeting will not be used to ask for parent input, but provided as an opportunity to disseminate information and distribute copies of the revised parent and family engagement policy.

COMMUNICATIONS

Evans Middle School 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 parent and family engagement.
- 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:
- Notifications of Title I events and needed input will be provided through flyers, the school website, newsletters, on the school marquee, Remind texts, email, and Facebook. Flyers and website information will be provided in both English and Spanish.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Evans Middle School 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.

• A school-parent compact will be developed jointly with parents, the entire school staff, and students to show ways in which each member will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Parents will be sent home a copy of the current school-parent compact and asked to supply input to be returned to their child's homeroom teacher or to be dropped off at the front desk to the Family Engagement Coordinator. Parents will be given an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practical, provide the policy in a language the parents can understand through the use of a translation application. The school-parent compact will be posted on Evans' school website and be available in the front office.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, Evans Middle School will take the following actions to involve the parents 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 by:

• The budget will be shared with parents during the Family Engagement Committee meetings. Parents are encouraged to provide input for parent and family engagement activities as well as the budget.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Evans Middle School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool 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:

• Utilizing the support of the Coweta County Schools Parent Resource Center which is open daily 8:00AM-4:00PM when Coweta County Schools are in session. The resource center is located at 22 Nimmons Street, Newnan, GA. It provides services for the residents of Coweta County, including: Stepping Stone, Puddle Jumpers, Ferst Foundation, Monday's Child Parenting Class, parenting resources, computer access to parents, and classes for Title I parents. Grace Harbor, BYRD House, and/or other mental health services are also available. We will ensure that the Neglected and Delinquent facilities located in our school attendance areas are included in the parental involvement correspondence and activities.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Evans Middle School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement 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 achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
- The challenging State's 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 to improve the achievement of their child
- Parent Nights/Workshops will be held throughout the school year (Individual workshops subject to change based on stakeholder(s) need and availability)
 - Annual Title I Meeting and Open House (August 2025)
 - ESOL Event (September 2025)
 - How to monitor your child's progress through Infinite Campus, Google Classroom, teacher contact (email and remind) Technology Breakfast (October 2025)
 - How to work with teachers to improve the achievement of your child
 - Rising 6th Grade Parent Night and 8th Grade transition activities/workshops
 - School-wide Engagement Day (December 2025)
 - Access to State's academic standards and resources
 - o GMAS/STAR assessment information and resources
 - Annual Title I Input Meeting (May 2026)
- When applicable, a video of the Parent Workshop, as well as handouts from the workshop will be provided in the school newsletter, website, and/or posted on social media.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Evans Middle School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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 the school by:

- Providing the staff professional development meetings on topics relating to strategies to improve communication with parents as well as ways to increase parent involvement within the school. Professional learning sessions will use resources from the Georgia Department of Education website, including the powerpoint and/or webinars on Communicating with Parents.
- Providing the opportunity for teachers to meet with parents/guardians to ensure clear communication of student academic and behavior progress.
- Allowing teachers the opportunity to actively participate and provide input regarding parent workshops and Title I family and community engagement events.
- Encouraging parents to acknowledge staff involvement by providing a Staff Shout-out to leave positive notes of encouragement.
- Staff will involve parents before, during, and after Engagement (Magic) days supporting our School Improvement Plan.

Evans Middle School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- To support family and parent engagement activities, the school will:
 - Invite all parents through newsletters, Remind, post on the website, and Facebook detailing the event.
 - Provide flyers and other advertisements will be available in other languages that are reflective of our school population.
 - Provide an agenda of the event through the website, flyers, Facebook, and newsletters
 - Following each event, provide handouts and other resources in the parent resource room or on the school website under the Title I tab.
 - Plan for events to be held at convenient times for parents as well as provide childcare and interpreters, if needed.
 - Allow parents to provide feedback on events through surveys or evaluation forms.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE TO SCHOOLS: The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESSA.

Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) school parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:

- □ Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- □ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- □ Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- ☐ Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- □ To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with

- teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- □ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- □ Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- □ Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

NOTE TO THE SCHOOLS: Describe how each discretionary item checked above will be implemented.