

Sunflower County Consolidated School District



2023 - 2024

District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Dr. Miskia Davis, Superintendent
Mr. Dylan Jones, Federal Programs Director

School Board Approved: TBD



District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Sunflower County Consolidated School District

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Sunflower County Consolidated School District 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, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's or district's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement several specific parental and family engagement activities.

Sunflower County Consolidated School District understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school

- Parents and families are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and advisory committees to assist in their child's education.

Sunflower County Consolidated School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Sunflower County Consolidated School District 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 District’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the District Parental Engagement Policy, and the allocation of spending at the district level.

SCCSD will hold an Annual Federal Funds Stakeholder Meeting where parents are represented as the district discusses allocating LEA-level funds. Title I Meetings at the school level will be held for all parents before the end of the fall semester each year.

FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will offer flexible engagement meetings at convenient times for families by providing recordings for said meetings in an accessible place and providing means for electronic feedback.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will take the following actions to 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.

SCCSD will present the District-wide Parent and Family Engagement Policy to families at the School's annual Title I Meetings for suggestions and approval. Family members will be invited

and encouraged to serve on district-level committees and committees at the school level. SCCSD will also post the district/school Parent and Family Engagement Policies on the district website and, to the extent practical, elicit feedback on these policies. SCCSD will identify barriers to greater participation of families to increase parental engagement.

COMMUNICATION

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will provide parents of participating children with timely information about programs under Title I, including:

- a) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use,
- b) forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress,
- c) achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, and
- d) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicable.

Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be 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.

Schools will distribute the School Level Parent and Family Engagement Policies at the school level and post the approved policy on their website. The district will distribute the Districtwide Parent and Family Engagement Policy to parents at the annual district meeting. It will also post the policy on the district's website once the Sunflower County Consolidated School Board approves it. Schools will use student planners, student folders, phone calls, conferences, parent meetings, workshops, social media, and text apps (such as SchoolStatus) and the district website to keep parents informed of information related to school and parent programs, students' expected proficiency levels, meetings, and other activities. The district will use meetings, workshops, electronic communication, and the district website to inform parents. To the extent practical, this information will be provided in a language that parents can understand and free from educational jargon.

DISSEMINATION PROCESS

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will submit any comments/concerns to the Superintendent's office if parents do not find the schoolwide plan and/or Districtwide Parent and Family Engagement policy satisfactory.

Any comments or concerns can be sent to the Director of Federal Programs, Dylan Jones, at djones@sunflowerk12.org or by phone at 662-887-4919 X104. Parents may also contact the school administration to submit comments or concerns at the school level.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, school, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standard and how the plan is used, reviewed, and updated.

Schools accepting Title I-A funds will convene an Annual Title I Schoolwide meeting during the Fall semester to jointly develop a school-parent compact with parents and faculty. Upon parent approval, the schools will distribute this document. Administrators, teachers, and parents will use this document in ongoing, two-way conversations about student achievement and behavior. In the Spring of each year, the schools will review this document and revise it as necessary for the coming year. Using this method of updating the compact, schools will elicit feedback from students, faculty, and families each year in the Spring and Fall.

BUILD THE CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Sunflower County Consolidated School District will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective participation of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Materials and training to help parents work with their child to enhance their child’s achievement, such as literacy training or using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement
- Assist 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 and
 - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Educate school personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, on the value and utility of the contributions of parents and 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.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement 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' full participation in their children's education.

For this school year, the following Parent and Family Engagement Meetings are currently planned:

- *Districtwide Federal Funds Stakeholder Meeting: Details about Title I services and other federal funds will be discussed, and attendees will be asked to provide feedback.*
- *Open House – details about the new school year, including class schedules, teacher information, or new school policies*
- *Schoolwide Annual Title I School Meetings at school sites*

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences – at the school level, schools will hold at least one Parent-Teacher Conference night for teachers and parents to discuss students' progress.*
- *Each school must also maintain a **semester** parent workshop focused on helping parents assist students in one of the following areas:*
 - *Math curriculum, Literacy/Reading assistance, State Testing requirements, FAFSA Application, Homework help, etc.*

ACCESSIBILITY

Sunflower County Consolidated School District in carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of this part, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

Parent meetings will be offered at flexible times throughout the school year. To the extent practical, all announcements will be available through the district/school website, telephone messaging system, and other electronic messaging systems in a language that parents can understand. Progress reports, Report Cards, State assessment results, and other information regarding student achievement will be sent to parents promptly. SCCSD will also maintain a district data site where parents can access student grades anytime. All schools and the district office maintain regular business hours and welcome feedback through personal visits, conferences, emails, and phone calls. Please note that appointments are preferred, so parents may be offered our full attention.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

If, for any reason, parents are not satisfied with the parent and family engagement policies or procedures at their school site, they may address their grievances to the school site principal. If the school site principal cannot resolve the issue for the parent, then the parent may contact the

following individual at the SCCSD's Central Office: Mr. William Murphy, Director of Personnel and Student Affairs, at (662) 887-4919 X102. If the problem is still unresolved, parents may contact the SCCSD Board of Trustees (School Board) in writing to be placed on the next regular School Board meeting agenda to discuss and resolve the conflict.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS

The Federal Programs Director will meet with each school-level Title I Coordinator annually in the Fall to disseminate the district-wide Parental Engagement Plan and discuss the expectations surrounding it. As requested, other sample plans will be shared, and the results of the Spring Parental Engagement survey will also be shared.