



2022 – 2023 Trion City School District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

239 Simmons Street
Trion, GA 30753

Revised May 20, 2022
<http://www.trionschools.org>
706-734-2991

What is 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 ESSA.

About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Trion City School District (TCSD) has developed a parent and family engagement policy that describes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. The plan explains TCSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children. The plan describes how TCSD's builds capacity in Title I schools to improve family engagement strategies and activities, which are designed to improve the achievement of students, school and district academic achievement goals.

school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

TCSD believes learning is a shared responsibility that requires active involvement of students, parents, families, staff, and community. Research has shown that when schools, families and communities collaborate to support learning, students achieve at higher levels, remain engaged in learning and complete graduation requirements.

Title I, Part A provides support for the promotion of family engagement at multiple levels through the development and implementation of the school and district improvement plans and provisions.

Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements that schools and school systems involve parents and family members in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, the ACSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required

Jointly Developed

The TCSD's Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be developed and reviewed annually by participating stakeholders. Stakeholders are invited to attend the meeting through personal invitations, school flyers, school and district website, and Google classroom. The stakeholders are invited to attend face to face or virtually. The stakeholders will represent the diversity of the population. The meeting will convene at a time and place convenient to stakeholders. The first development meeting begins during the month of May. During the meeting, stakeholders are provided a survey and given the opportunity to review the current parent and family engagement policy. Once the policy is reviewed, stakeholders are asked to provide suggestions and ideas to improve the district's policy. During the meeting, stakeholders also review and discuss the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP).

Upon final revision, the district Parent and Family Engagement Policy is incorporated into the CLIP which is submitted to the state. Parents are encouraged to submit feedback at any time regarding the policy on the school or district website or in written form to their child's school. All feedback received by July is included with the policy for the upcoming school year.

The Parent and Family Engagement policy is made available to parents, families and community through the school and district website, the Family Engagement Center and social media. The Parent and Family Engagement policy along with other documents are shared through various best known practices in multiple languages in order to reach the highest number of stakeholders.

Technical Assistance

TCSD will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist the participating schools with planning and implementing effective family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The coordination, assistance and support will include designation of a Parent and Family Engagement committee representative, involvement of parents and families, allocation of district resources to parent engagement activities, and identification of a Title I Parent and Family Engagement coordinator.

TCSD will provide training to enhance the skills of teachers, administrators and other necessary staff in areas which include, understanding the value and usefulness of parent contributions, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implementation and coordination of parent programs, and how to build collaboration between parents and schools.

The Title I Coordinator will provide aid and support to all Title I schools to ensure parental involvement requirements are being satisfied and that parent engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notification and resources from the district to help them improve and strengthen parent/family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the Title I Coordinator will hold meetings and trainings with the Title I parent/family engagement coordinator to review parent/family engagement plans and activities. Additionally, the Title I director will provide technical assistance and specific meetings for the purpose of reviewing parent/family engagement requirements and for planning opportunities for parent/family engagement.

Annual Title I Meeting

TCSD will conduct an annual Title I meeting during the month of September, prior to November 1. During the annual meeting, TCSD will disseminate information regarding the school and district's Title I status. The parents and families will be provided their rights and encouraged to attend and participate in the education of their child.

Annual Evaluation of Effectiveness of Parent Engagement Policy

TCSD will conduct annual evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the policy. Stakeholders are invited to attend the meeting through personal invitations, school flyers, school and district website, and Google classroom. The stakeholders are invited to attend face to face or virtually. The stakeholders will represent the diversity of the population. The meeting will convene at a time and place convenient to stakeholders. The school and district will provide assistances and resources to facilitate the parental engagement program, and the participating stakeholders will annually evaluate the content and effectiveness of the policy and its programs. A translator will be present to address existing language barriers. Surveys, assessment data and other resources will be used to determine the needs and develop revised strategies for student success. Revisions to the District Improvement Plan and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be developed with input from all stakeholders and then communicated to parents/families through multiple modes.

Reservation of Funds

TCSD is not required to make a reservation of Title I funds for parent engagement activities. Should it ever become necessary, TCSD will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives to carry out the parental involvement requirements listed in this policy

and as described in Section 1111(d) of the ESSA. Furthermore, TCSD will distribute the 1 percent set aside to the Title I schools to support their local-level parent/family engagement programs and activities. The Title I Coordinator will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate parent/family

engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent/family recommendations. Each Title I school will host an annual evaluation meeting in the Spring or survey parents to obtain feedback from parents for suggestions how these parental involvement funds may be used in the upcoming year. Parent/Family Engagement budget and expenditures must align to the purpose for Parent/Family Engagement as described in Section 1118 of the ESEA. Survey results/comment cards will be reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the parent/family engagement budget.

Communication / Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents and families of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meetings. Parents and families are invited to attend the meeting through personal invitations, school flyers, school and district website, and Google classroom. The parents and families are invited to attend face to face or virtually. The parents and families will represent the diversity of the population. The meeting will convene at a time and place convenient to stakeholders. During the meetings the parents and families are encouraged to share their ideas and suggestions to assist in the planning the implementation for improvement needed for the district, schools, and students to reach the desired academic achievement goals.

- *A parent meeting will be held annually to review the Consolidated LEA's Implementation Plan, to evaluate its effectiveness for FY22, and make suggestions for upcoming FY23.*
- *A parent meeting will be held in the annually to review the district's parent involvement plan and to evaluate its effectiveness for effectiveness for FY22 and make suggestions for upcoming FY23.*
- *Schools will host parent meetings and provide opportunities for parents to provide input into the schools' parent involvement plans, Compacts, and School wide program plans.*
- *Surveys will be made available during the spring of each school year to all parents to acquire feedback and input regarding the academic program and parent involvement.*

Building Capacity

TCSD will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong family engagement. Educational research indicates that high student achievement is the result of effective collaboration between the home, school and community. Efforts will be made to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the Title I schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the implementation of district activities and programs. Family engagement activities will be scheduled throughout the school year to foster a collaboration that will build a parent, family and community partnership. TCSD will support activities that focus on the improvement of student achievement socially and academically. As a result, learning strategies will be shared with parents to improve student achievement and address the needs of all students.

TCSD will work as a district through its Title I schools to provide assistance to parents and families which will include the following: school and district academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, strategies to address the needs of their child's academic needs to support academic progress, communication guidance to assist in a partnership with their child's teacher and information regarding the Title I.

The provided meeting opportunities will allow parents to focus student data, develop families' capacity to work with their children in the home, and follow-ups will be held face-to-face. Virtual meetings will also be held to assist families in gaining knowledge regarding Georgia Standards of Excellence, resources for Georgia Milestones, and Title I A requirements. The dates and locations for these classes will be posted on the school and district website, Google classroom, social media and Title I school's newsletter.

TCSD develop webpages on the district and school websites that contain resources and materials to assist parents with the ability to work with their children at home. Copies of these materials will be made available at all Title I schools for those families who may have limited internet access, including copies in Spanish. To assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), TCSD technology specialists will partner with Title I schools to host workshops for parents. Dates and times for these workshops will be determined and announced by Trion Elementary School.

TCSD encourages collaboration and participation with community partners by posting recordings of council and other district meetings on the website and increase participation by utilizing video conferencing technology to accommodate the schedules of these valuable partners.

The TCSD will coordinate and integrate the district's family engagement programs with the local preschool program and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district by inviting faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. TCSD will also coordinate with these programs to ensure that parents are informed about available resources.

To ensure that information related to district, school, and parent programs, meetings, and activities is available to all parents in an understandable and uniform format, each Title I school will send home announcements of events with information for parents. Parent notifications and resources will be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable, and interpreters will be available at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district Website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district and its schools will also utilize the designated One-Call telephone system, REMIND, Class Dojo, district and school Websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

TCSD will conduct trainings during the school year for principals and parent involvement coordinators to learn and discuss strategies to increase parent/family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and community. Before October 31st, each Title I school will survey parents asking them questions regarding communication, challenges/obstacles, and needs the

parents have in being a partner with the school in their child's education. We will take the results of this survey and share the feedback gathered with the faculty and staff. Then, we will work as a faculty and staff to improve communication, remove obstacles, and meet the needs of parents in their effort to be a partner with the school in their child's education. Trainings will focus on creating a welcoming environment and improving two-way communication with families.

Parental Involvement Evaluation

Each year, the TCSD will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan and the parental involvement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I Schools through an annual parent survey.

TCSD will notify parents of the survey through emails, Google classroom, Facebook, school announcements, and District Website announcements in the Spring.

In addition to the annual survey, parents may provide feedback throughout the year regarding the district and school parent involvement activities by completing the feedback form found online at www.trionschools.org

TCSD will use the findings from the school and system surveys, and the Title I Evaluation of Parent Involvement checklist to design strategies to improve effective parent involvement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parental involvement plans.

Stay Connected with TCSD:

Mrs. Angie Thomas, Parent and Family Engagement specialist

Mrs. Thomas' Google Classroom
<https://classroom.google.com/u/0/h>
enter code: Fxaji7e
Mrs. Thomas' Remind
Text @tespaw to 81010

Annual District Meeting –T.E.A.M. night

Date: September 2022

Location: Trion City School cafeteria, virtually and recorded (posted on school and district website and Facebook)

Adoption

This districtwide Parent and Family Engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual State of the District meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Trion School District on September 14, 2022 and will be in effect for the 2022- 2023 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 1, 2022.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services 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.

Your Input Matters

We welcome your suggestions, questions, and feedback at any time! Please submit comments below, and if there is any part of this plan that you find unsatisfactory for the parents and students at Trion Elementary, please let us know. Your comments can be submitted to the Trion Elementary School front office.

If your comments indicate that the plan is unsatisfactory, the school will submit them to

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