

PICKENS COUNTY SCHOOLS

TITLE I ESSER AND PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN



2023-2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>General Expectations</i>	1
<i>Required Components</i>	2
<i>Policies</i>	3
<i>ESSER/Discretionary</i>	4

FEDERAL PROGRAMS STAFF

- Jamie Chapman
Superintendent
- Vanessa Anthony
Associate Superintendent
Federal Programs
Coordinator
- Anissa Ball
Parent and Family
Engagement Coordinator
- Chan Mullenix,
ESSER Administrator

PICKENS COUNTY SCHOOLS

- Aliceville Elementary School
Alphonso Morton, III,
Interim Principal
- Aliceville High School
Barry Hill, Jr., Principal
- Gordo Elementary School
Jeff Campbell, Principal
- Gordo High School
Mark Capps, Principal
- Pickens County College and
Career Center
Shawn McDaniel, Director
- Pickens County Early Child-
hood Learning Center
Alesia W. Gill, Director
- Pickens County High School
Lee Richardson, Principal
- Reform Elementary School
Debbie Rice, Principal

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Pickens County School District agrees to implement the following statutory 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 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118 (d) of the ESEA.

The school district will incorporate this LEA parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement re-

quirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, 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.

The school district will 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 parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents 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 at school*
- (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 1118 of the ESEA.*

The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The Pickens County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its LEA parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - *Form Parental Involvement committees; committees will*

consist of parents, students, and teachers

- *Call a meeting to develop plans of action for each school; plans will include results from surveys and assessment results*

- *Schedule meetings at each school once every six weeks*
- *District Parental Involvement committee meetings once per semester with parents*

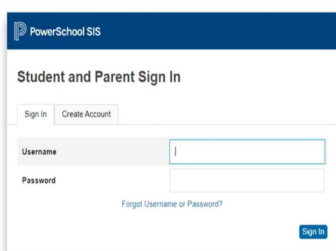
Do you want to know about your child's attendance, grades, etc. Here's how.....



Go to <https://pickensco.powerschool.com/public>

- Click on CREATE ACCOUNT
- Enter Parent Account Details- make sure you use a valid email address.
- You will need to be able to verify later.
- Each student should bring home a letter from school with their Access ID and Password. If your child did not bring a letter home, please call the school office.
- Enter the information for each student that you are monitoring.
- You can enter up to 7 students at a time.
- After completing the account creation process, you will be prompted to check your email.
- Find your email from PowerSchool and click the link to verify your account.
- The link will automatically open up in the web browsers on your device.

If you have login information from last year, you can use the same account



DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED COMPONENTS

2. The Pickens County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Include parents on the Continuous Improvement Plan committees at each school to review plans
- Send surveys home to gain input on parent workshops and parent activities **SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE RIGHT WITH YOUR PHONE TO TAKE THE SURVEY**
- Share information at PTSO meetings and give parents an opportunity



to ask questions

- Implement parent involvement activities every six weeks

3. The Pickens County School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Conduct parent workshops to help parents access online resources for students
- Create links for parents on websites to share information

- Conduct parent workshops to assist in using the PowerSchool Home Portal which accesses attendance, grades, and school information

- Allow parents to take the School Climate Survey and the Parental Involvement Survey online as well as paper/pencil

- Sponsor activities such as General Title I Meetings, Open Houses, Social Media Days, Grandparent Days, Honor Programs, and Teacher/Parent Conferences during and after school hours

4. The Pickens County School District will coordinate and

REQUIRED COMPONENTS CONTINUED...

integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

- Pickens County Early Learning Center (PCELC) students and parents are invited to visit the schools on pre-registration days.



- The PCELC students tour each of their schools two times per year to become familiar with the school before they begin the next year.
- The PCELC students also visit the schools during special events such as homecoming activities, and school plays/program.

District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disad-

5. The Pickens County School

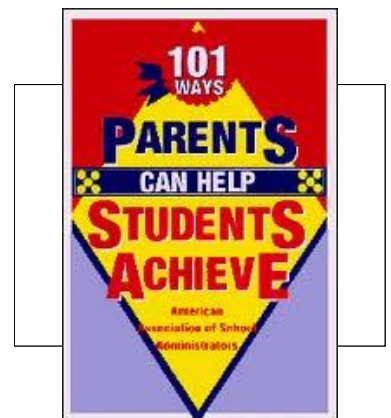
REQUIRED COMPONENTS CONTINUED...

vantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

conduct the surveys and gather the information.

- The committee will analyze the results and report the findings to stakeholders.
- The committee uses the results to change parental involvement activities for the next school year to better meet the needs of the parents.
- The results are also used in the Continuous Improvement Plan.

- The Title I Committee will



POLICIES

1. The Pickens County School District will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph -
- 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 Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators.

Actions to be taken:

- Combine Parent Teacher Student meetings among cities in the district
- Conduct an PowerSchool Home Portal training session
- Inform parents by using Blackboard and Facebook



- Create Newsletters
- Inform parents about how to access programs such as: Accelerated Reader, Edgenuity, as well as ACAP Summative and Alternate
- Discuss College and Career Ready Standards as well as ACT Work Keys and ACT with Writing

B. The school district 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, and using tech-



Our school district provides or sponsors the following mental health services. The following list reflects the services Pickens County School District provides:

Assessments or Surveys - includes questionnaires provided to students related to social behaviors, feelings, etc.

Crisis intervention - short-term, immediate assistance by school counselor or professional for a specific situation.

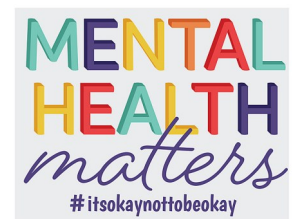
School-Based Mental Health - On-going counseling services by school professionals or private practitioners in the school setting.

Efforts to care for the emotional well-being of children and youth can extend beyond the classroom and into the entire school. School-based mental health programs can focus on promoting mental wellness, preventing mental health problems, and providing treatment.

Effective programs:

- Promote the healthy social and emotional development of all children and youth
- Recognize when young people are at risk for or are experiencing mental health problems

Identify how to intervene early and appropriately when there are problems.



POLICIES CONTINUED...

nology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Provide websites for programs used at school
- Show parents how to use Alabama Virtual Library
- Conduct Social Media Day (information for student's academics, etc.)
- Have Parent/Student

Luncheons

- Have Parents/Grandparents Day

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of

parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- District and School websites
- Social Media
- Finalsite Mass Notification
- Newsletters
- Mailings to local churches and local newspapers

POLICIES CONTINUED...

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource cen-



ters, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- Pickens County Early Learning Center students visit kindergarten classes and eat lunch at their home based schools. Parents also visit schools.
- Career Fair Days

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that 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:

- Translators
- Simplify newsletters
- Multi Language Newsletters
- Finalsite Mass Notification
- Remind 101 (parents sign-up to get information from school through text)

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief

(ESSER Funds)

ESSER Funds: 3 major Federal Acts

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (ESSER I) March 27, 2020: **\$943,266**
 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER): **\$178,195**
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (ESSER II): December 27, 2020: **\$3,787,895**
 - ESSER II State Reserve: **\$104,764**
- American Rescue Plan (ARP ESSER / ESSER III): March 11, 2021: **\$8,513,215**
 - ARP ESSER State Reserve: **\$538,808**

How Can These Funds Be Used

- **ESSER I:** Preventing, Preparing for, and Responding to COVID-19. Including hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs.
- **ESSER II:** Same as ESSER I plus Addressing Learning Loss, Preparing for Reopening, and Testing, Repairing, and Upgrading Projects to Improve Air Quality in School Buildings.
- **ARP ESSER III:** Same as ESSER I and II plus specific 20% reserve for Evidence Based Interventions, including Summer School, After School, and Extended Year Programs, which include addressing students' Academic, Social, and Emotional needs and addressing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

For more information about ESSER, please contact:

Chan Mullenix

mullenix@pickens.k12.al.us

205 367-2082

Please scan the QR Code to take the ESSER Survey



DISCRETIONARY LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The Pickens County School District will build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school district to support their children's academic achievement, by doing the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.



MORE ESSER NEWS

ESSER Funds: Examples of Usage

Funded items or planned items to be funded with ESSER

- Supplies: PPE, Cleaning, Sanitization, Detection, Meal Service
- Personnel: Teachers, Interventionist, APs, Custodians, Aides, Tutors
- Academics and Enrichment: Learning and Intervention programs, Chromebooks and Devices, After School and Summer School, Textbooks

- Upgrades: Communication and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) repairs and upgrades across the county.

ESSER Plans and Input

- While ESSER I and ESSER II funds have expired, ARP ESSER III funds are available until September 30, 2024. ARP ESSER plans have to be updated and submitted each year.
- Plans are available to view on the district website.
- You can give input to these plans by completing the ESSER survey on the website.

- You may also contact us directly with the contact information provided.
- You can also have your voice heard by being active in your school/parent organizations or contacting your child's principal.

BE AWARE!

ESSER FUNDS WILL RUN OUT!

- ARP ESSER III funds have to be allocated by September 30, 2024 (Next Fall) and will have to be spent by the end of 2024 (Next Christmas).
- Unless the Federal Government (President/Congress)

We would like to remind all parents that ALL of our schools are Title I Schoolwide. They receive federal funds based on the school's student free and reduced lunch count. These funds help our schools provide services and materials to help our students achieve the goals outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act. A public meeting was held in your school at which time the Title I program and parents rights and responsibilities were explained. The School Title I Plan and the LEA Title I plan can be reviewed by the public at anytime. Due to federal requirements, there are items that the Pickens County Board of Education must make available to the parents/guardians of our students. These items are in this newsletter.

If you wish to review the plan, please call the school or the central office and make an appointment to do so. If anyone has questions about Title I, Vanessa Anthony or Anissa Ball will be happy to answer them. They can be reached at the Board of Education Central Office at 205-367-2080 ext. 208 or 203.

INSPIRING ETHICAL LEADERS...ONE CHILD AT A TIME

377 LaDow Center Circle~~Carrollton, Alabama 35447~~Telephone: (205) 367-2080~~Fax: (205) 367-8404