



**LEA Parental Involvement Plan**

**PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

**The Sumter County School System** 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 district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, 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, homeless 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.*

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED LEA PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

1. **The Sumter County School System** will take the following action to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

The district parent involvement policy is distributed to parents and students:

- A. During Annual Title I meetings, these are held annually at each school at the beginning of the school year.
- B. Letters are sent home to parents requiring them to read the policy and sign to acknowledge that they have received the information

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

- A. Parent surveys are distributed at the beginning of the school year
- B. Parents are asked to serve on committees as needed (ongoing)

3. **The Sumter County School System** 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:

- A. Churches and PTA Meetings
- B. School newsletters
- C. Local media: radio, television, newspaper

4. **The Sumter County School System** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with other programs such as the Extended Day program and the after-school program's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant.

5. **The Sumter County School System** will conduct annual evaluation at the beginning and middle of the school year. The evaluations will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).

The evaluation will be composed of:

- A. Parent Surveys
- B. Parent discussion sessions

The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy to:

- C. Plan the next school year parental involvement activities
- D. Develop targeted strategies to increase parent/community involvement
- E. Revise school policy/procedures as needed

Parents/community members are enabled to play these key roles:

1. Teacher - help their child complete and understand school assignments
  2. Supporter - contribute their skills to the school
  3. Advocate - helping their child to receive fair treatment
  4. Decision maker - participate in joint problem solving with the school at every level
6. **The Sumter County School System** will implement all required components of the No Child Left Behind Parent's Right-to-Know provisions, which is found in Section 1111(h)(6), in the Sumter County Parent's Rights-to-Know Plan. At the beginning of each school year, the Sumter County School System shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving Title I funds that the parents may request, and the Sumter County Federal Programs Section will provide parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including, at as minimum the following:
- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject area in which the teacher provides instruction
  - Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived
  - The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree
  - Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications
  - Information on the level of achievement of the parent's child in each of the State academic assessments
  - Timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified

All notices and information provided to parents under the parent's right-to-know provision will be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that the parents can understand.

1. **The Sumter County School System** 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:
- 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 technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:
1. Offering parent training sessions
  2. Coordinators attending regional parental involvement workshops
  3. Coordinators attending Mega Conference, Alabama Technology Conference (AETC) and State and National PTA Meetings
  4. Information on workshops/conferences that pertains to parents will be distributed through the school newsletter and/or PTA
- 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:
1. Increasing communication between parents and teachers
  2. Participating in conferences
  3. Utilizing parent volunteers
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Health & Wellness, and public preschool and other 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:
1. Offering extended day programs
- 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:

The district Parental Involvement Policy will be distributed to parents annually at the beginning of the school year. Through the use of TransACT Compliance and Communication, the publication of the policy can be distributed in native languages.

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY LEA PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

Discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

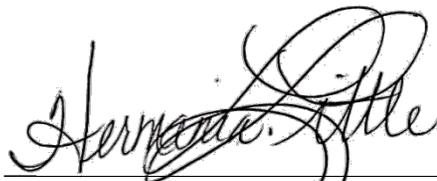
- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of 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 district wide 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.]

**PART IV. APPROVAL**

This district wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by documentation of sign-in sheets from meetings.

**This policy was adopted by the Sumter County Board of Education on November 05, 2014.**

The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before November 30, 2014.

  
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(Signature of Authorized Official)

*November 05, 2014*  
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(Date)