

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Williamsburg County School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The District will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its school with Title I, Part A programs consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children. The district will convene a committee of representative parents who meet annually to revise and update the district's policy. Parents are encouraged to be active members of the committee and are solicited through school newsletters, the Alert Now system, and the district's website. Recommendations and revisions to the LEA Parent Involvement Policy are welcome and such actions will be taken where reasonable and feasible. All parents will be given opportunities for feedback by contacting the district and the schools.
- Consistent with Section 1118, the 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 to include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The 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 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 District will submit any parent comments with the plan when the District submits the plan to the South Carolina Department of Education.
- The 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 parent 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 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. Williamsburg County School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - Convene a committee of representative parents who meet annually to revise and update the district's policy. Parents are invited through school newsletters, the district website and the Alert Now system. Recommendations and revisions to the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy are welcome and consideration will be given to all suggestions where feasible, reasonable, and practicable.
- 2. Williamsburg 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:
 - Monitor each school to ensure that all parents have an opportunity to participate in the process of school review and improvement through service on planning committees and completion of surveys.
 - Review the results of parent surveys, program evaluations, and achievement data for the purpose of modifying the Parental Involvement Policy, as needed.
- 3. Williamsburg 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
 - Provide materials and training to enable parents to work with children to support their academic achievement, such as through literacy training and instructional technology.
 - Provide training to school staffs and principals to strengthen parent involvement efforts, including outreach activities.
 - Provide Parent Liaisons in each of the district's schools to provide parents with information about Title 1 programs, services, parent involvement opportunities, parental rights, plan review process, and school improvement processes.
 - Provide appropriate support services for students to assist with the home-school connection and students' academic achievement.
- 4. Williamsburg County School District** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, by:
 - Providing home instruction programs in parent involvement activities to support academic transition and success.
 - Establishing parent resources among coordinated programs to promote literacy and participation in the education of children.
 - Assisting students and parents through coordinated services among school, family, and related services as needed for initial school entry and on-going academic success.

5. **Williamsburg County School District** will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parent and Family Engagement Policy 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 disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). Williamsburg County School District will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy 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.
- The District will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of Title I, Part A, schools. This will be administered through a survey sent home to parents at the end of each year prior to the parent committee meeting.
 - Throughout the year, periodic surveys will be administered to determine the effectiveness of this policy.
6. **Williamsburg County School District** will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools, 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 through workshops, conferences, and classes to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
- The South Carolina academic content standards,
 - The South Carolina student academic achievement standards,
 - The state and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments,
 - The requirements of Part A,
 - How to monitor your child's progress in school, 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.
- Each school provides a parent liaison whose responsibility it is to serve as a resource to parents through the provision of materials, trainings, and information sessions to help parents improve their child's academic achievement.
 - A Parenting Room has been established at each of the district's schools. This room houses resources and information to assist parents in improving their child's academic achievement.
- 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.
- The District will annually conduct workshops at each school to focus on outreach and communication with parents.
- 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 centers, that encourage and support parents in fully participating in the education of their children.

- 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.
- All school-level parent meetings, programs, and activities will be published at the beginning of the school year via the District website, school newsletters, and local newspapers.
 - Parents are also encouraged by each school's parent liaison to become active participants in their child's education through volunteering in school-wide activities.
 - The district will use Google Translate to ensure that announcements are published in a language parents can understand. If necessary, the district will enlist the assistance of interpreters to the greatest extent possible.

PART III: DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

In addition to the above statutory requirements, Williamsburg County School District will implement the following activities to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement:

1. 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 in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education:
2. Establishing a district-wide Parent Advisory Council to provide advice on matters related to parental involvement in Title 1, Part A, programs.
3. Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118, as parents may request.


PART IV: ADOPTION

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 those participating in the parenting meeting on April 24, 2017.

This policy was adopted by the Williamsburg County School District on 4-24-18 and will be in effect for the period of one school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A.



Signature of Federal Programs Director



Date