Geneva City Board of Education

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Jami Seay
Superintendent

GCS Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy

(Sec. 1116 (2))
Sec. 1116(a)(2)(A))

A. Describe how the Local Education will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).

The Geneva City School System will hold system-level meetings to secure parent input into the development of the system policy/plan. The Geneva City School System will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local agency plan by the following:

- An annual meeting of the Parent-Teacher Advisory Council will be held at a time determined most appropriate by council members.
- The Geneva City School System will assist the schools in informing parents of their parental involvement rights in Title I schools.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(B))

B. Describe how the Local Education Agency will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.

The Geneva City School System, with the input of the Parent Advisory Council, will develop a system-level Parent Involvement Plan to serve as a guide for system and school-level activities. The Federal Programs Coordinator and the Family Liaison will

serve as the district level contact to coordinate activities and provide technical assistance as needed. The set aside of 1% is required since Geneva City Schools receives over $500,000 in Title I funding.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(C))

C. Describe how the Local Education Agency will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

The Geneva City School System will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Part A with parent involvement strategies by:

- Title I Annual meetings
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- PTO meetings
- Weekly Folders
- Newsletter
- District/School Website
- One Call Now
- PowerSchool Parent Portal

Sec. 1116(a)(2)

D. Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, that includes identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (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)

Annually, all parents are given an opportunity to participate in The Geneva City Title I Community Survey. These surveys seek input on activities, training and opportunities offered to parents and students. The distribution and collection of these surveys will be the responsibility of the principal and the school counselor. The results of the surveys are compiled by individual schools for review by the school-wide ACIP and Parent Advisory committees to determine needed changes. Each year all Title I schools' School-wide Continuous Improvement Plans and Parent Involvement Plans are reviewed and evaluated for effectiveness. Strategies for improvement are developed and implemented. Particular attention is paid to identifying and removing any barriers to greater participation by parents (especially those who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) in parental involvement activities. Faculty and staff try to

limit these barriers by providing activities at varying times (convenient for the parent), having staff available to read things to parents if needed (ex: behavior rating scales that need to be completed by parents for students in special education), having forms translated for parents whose primary language is not English, and allowing for phone conferences or virtual meetings (ex: Google Meet) when appropriate.

All Title I schools will utilize programs such as TransACT to provide timely communication with all parents in a language they can understand. Google Translate is another tool that is utilized.

E. Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, that includes identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers.

The needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children with be addressed by the following:

- Newsletters
- Weekly Folders
- Home/School Compacts
- Orientation materials for students entering kindergarten
- Transition materials for students entering sixth grade (ex: *Moving Right Along: The Way Parents Can Help Children Succeed in the Middle Grades)*
- Links on the district and school websites
- PowerSchool Parent Portal

In regards to identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, technology is a concern. Many students in Geneva City Schools are living with grandparents and great-grandparents, and these caregivers struggle with the use of technology (PowerSchool Parent Portal for example). Other ways of communication such as the planners can help with this.

F. Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, that includes identifying strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

As part of the annual evaluation, team members including parents determined that strategies to support successful school and family interaction will include the following:

- Website links for Parent Involvement
- In-service training for teachers focusing on school and family interaction strategies
- Newsletters
- Utilizing resources from the Alabama Department of Education
- PTO
- Making contact with hard to reach parents at alternate sites such as ballparks, churches, and other areas in the local community
- PowerSchool Parent Portal

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(E))

G. Describe how the Local Education Agency will use the findings of such evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116(2)(D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.

Geneva City Schools 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. Particular attention is paid to identifying and removing any barriers to greater participation by parents (especially those who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) in parental involvement activities.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(F))

H. Describe how the Local Education Agency will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

The Geneva City School System will hold district-level and school-level Parent Advisory Council meetings to secure parent input into the development and revision of the Parent Involvement Plan. The meetings will be held at different times at the Title I Schools to accommodate the various parents'/guardians' work schedules.

The topics discussed at the meetings will include the following:

- Title I services and parents' rights
- State Student Assessment Program and schedule
- Parent Involvement Plan
- Technology

- Federal Programs

I. Describe how it will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

The Geneva City School District will hold system-level meetings to secure parent input into the development of the system policy/plan.

The Geneva City School District will ensure that annual meetings are held at all Title I schools at the beginning of each school year to discuss the following topics:

- Title I participation, services available, and parents' rights
- An explanation of the school's curriculum and the State's content standards
- The State Student Assessment Program
- The School-wide Continuous Improvement Plan
- The School Parental Involvement Plan
- Other timely subjects

These annual meetings will be held during the school day or in the evening to accommodate the various parents'/guardians' work schedules. If a parent cannot meet when the meeting is originally scheduled, information can be sent if requested by the parent.

J. Describe how it will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

Materials and training to help parents work with their children will be provided through the following avenues:

- Home/School Compacts
- Newsletters
- Letters explaining student assessment results and how to interpret score reports
- Parent/Teacher conferences
- Student Handbook contains the acceptable use policy in regards to technology

K. Describe how it will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in 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.

The Geneva City School System, with the assistance of its schools and parents, will educate its teachers, principals, and staff on how to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners. Focus will be on the value of the contributions of parents and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the schools. This will be accomplished by the following:

- Inservice teacher training with a focus on the topics above
- District/School websites
- Making contact with parents at alternate sites

L. Describe how it will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent 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 in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Geneva City Schools will do the following:

- Provide parent involvement links on the Geneva City Schools website to useful sites.
- Collaborate with SpectraCare, Head Start, Wiregrass Hope, and other community organizations to provide training opportunities that will enhance the parental involvement program.

M. Describe how it will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

All Title I schools will utilize programs such as TransACT or Google Translate to provide timely communication with all parents in a language they can understand.

N. Describe how it will ensure provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

Reasonable support for parental involvement activities will be provided by:

- Establish district-level and school-level Parent Advisory Councils to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Vary times of parent meetings

O. Describe how the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.

Parents may be involved in the development of training of teachers in the following ways:

- By asking parents what the best ways of communication are for them
- By asking parents how we can accommodate their work schedules for meetings and conferences
- By requesting parental input on the most effective/appropriate discipline techniques for their child
- By seeking parental input on better ways to make parents feel welcome and comfortable in the school setting
- By asking parents to lead discussions at Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings regarding topics of general parental concern

P. Describe how the LEA may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.

The Geneva City School System will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate to foster parental involvement by:

- Home/School Compact
- Booklets from edpubs.ed.gov
- Newsletters
- Parent/Teacher conferences (ex: help parents understand child's test scores, help parents learn how to help children with homework, etc.)
- Orientation meetings
- PowerSchool Parent Portal

Q. Describe how the LEA may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

Title I will help support parental involvement activities.

R. Describe how the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

At the scheduled parent meetings, PTO meetings and Advisory Council meetings, parents will be made aware of a variety of ways to be involved with their child's education. These parents will be encouraged to share this information with other parents. School leaders will encourage parents to share information concerning upcoming events with other parents through telephone calls, social media, etc. District/School-level websites will contain information for parents to share with those not having access to the internet. Newsletters may also be distributed.

S. Describe how the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.

School leaders will be encouraged to accommodate parents who are unable to attend conferences at school so that they may be involved in their child's education. The following methods may be used:

- Teleconferencing for parents unable to attend conferences during the school day
- Conduct conferences using Facetime, Google Meet, or Zoom
- After school conferences
- Communicating through emails or texts

T. Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.

Transition guides and orientation opportunities are provided for students entering kindergarten and sixth grades. All parents may learn more about their child's school by touring the campus and meeting teachers, administrators and other students at the annual open house. Parents and community members are encouraged to join PTO. There is an "open door" policy at each school within Geneva City Schools.

U. Describe how the LEA may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.

The Geneva City School System has established a district-level Parent Advisory Council. The members were selected by the principals from each school. In most cases, this will include parents who are already serving on the school-wide committees. The parents are contacted concerning their willingness to serve on the council. Parents are contacted by phone prior to the meeting date.

V. Describe how the LEA may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

The Geneva City School System will utilize community based organizations such as the Wiregrass United Way as well as businesses such as C & M Grocery, Piggly Wiggly, and Wal-Mart to assist our schools with parent involvement activities through:

- Providing a funding source for food, school supplies, teacher supplies, etc.
- Providing counseling services for students and families in need.
- Providing information/counseling on topics such as drug/alcohol abuse.

- Provide personal and social lessons on topics such as drugs, stress, bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide prevention.

Sec. 1116(f)

W. Describe how the Local Education Agency, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, parent and family members of homeless children, and parents and family members of immigrant 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 are conducted through the school year providing parents with information concerning their child's education, materials to practice needed skills, and tips for parents. Communication involves a variety of media such as telephone calls, email, parent/teacher conferences, Remind, and One Call Now. TransACT, Google Translate, or in person translators are used when needed to communicate with non-English speaking parents.

This LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND SIGN IN SHEETS. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1, 2026.

Geneva City Board of Education

PLAN APPROVED BY: Erica G. Wright/Federal Programs Director

DATE OF APPROVAL: September 15, 2026