

# **Opp City Schools**

## **Parent and Family Engagement Plan**

### **2025-2026**



**Superintendent: Emily Edgar**

**Federal Programs Director: Sharon W. Spurlin**

## **Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy Sec. 1116 (2)**

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

**A. Describe how the local education agency will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the LEA Consolidated Plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans for any schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) as described in 1111(d)(1) and (2).**

In an effort to involve parents in the development of the LEA parental involvement plan, a Parental Involvement Committee will be formed to develop the plan. Once the plan has been developed, the Federal Programs Advisory Committee will review the LEA Plan once a year. Members will be provided information regarding the requirements of ESSA, Title I and state standards regarding Parental Involvement. The committee will be made up of parents, community leaders, and school personnel.

- Philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
- Each school is encouraged to reach out to available community and family resources to engage and connect families and schools.
- Guest speakers from the community are utilized to share career information, historical facts and topics related to character, family and school.
- Civic clubs, churches, Fire and Safety and Police personnel serve as partners to our 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.**

Opp City Schools 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: 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; the State's academic content standards, the State's student academic achievement standards, the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, and how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators.

**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.**

Opp City Schools has the responsibility to educate all children and to include parents reinforcing the high quality of instruction that will help students meet high performance standards: OCS will train parents to assist and monitor homework and to monitor their child's progress. The LEA will provide information, training, for both home and school for the following: ESSA, State Performance Standards, Homework and Discipline Policies of child's teacher School/Student Handbooks and Compacts.

The LEA will also make parents aware of the available resources for parents to use at home such as:

- Parenting study tips
- School web page,
- Homework hotlines
- Access to student information on-line through PowerSchool Home Access (Parent Portal) and Teacher Schoology Page
- Open Door Policy to communicate with school administration and teachers
- Effective parent-teacher conferencing,
- Remediation after school

Individual school curriculum and evidenced based programs and strategies that are being implemented.

Each individual school should address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:

- Parent-teacher conferences at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement,
- Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress,
- Timely exchange of information.

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(D)**

**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 Title I, Part A, 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).**

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).

The LEA will include an evaluation to identify 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 school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy/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. The evaluation will be conducted in the Spring before the Federal Advisory Committee meeting so results can be considered for possible revisions or changes to the plan.

Parents will be asked to complete surveys evaluating instructional programs and organizational effectiveness of parental involvement activities.

Parents will also be involved where appropriate in serving on schoolwide committees. All parents are encouraged to participate in activities that support the school under Title I.

In addition, we will be adding to this practice a bit more reflection – giving people the chance to make suggestions for how we can include others and improve our outreach. This will be completed through surveys, Advisory and CIP Committees and small group discussions. This information will be forwarded to the Administrative Offices (district-wide committees), which will use this data to evaluate, revise and implement strategies that will encourage parent community involvement to a greater degree.

Barriers Considered: Many parents feel ill-informed about how and why academic decisions are made, Many parents, especially those employed outside the home, do not have enough time, time conflicts, parents feel educators don't value their opinions or concerns, teachers have limited time to establish sound communication with parents, teachers receive little training on how to effectively involve parents, cultural/socio-economic and language barriers.

**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 Title I, Part A, 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.**

Opp City Schools 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: The Federal Programs coordinator will participate in meetings with Schoolwide Committees to coordinate activities and provide guidance for allowable expenditures that may be needed to facilitate the activity(s). Results from parent surveys, Principal's suggestion box, and committee suggestions shall be considered when developing activities. Activities aimed toward fostering student achievement and academic well-being will be a priority in establishing an effective home-school communication process.

**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 Title I, Part A, that includes identifying strategies to support successful school and family interactions.**

The LEA will coordinate programs to give people the chance to make suggestions for how we can include others and improve our outreach regarding parental involvement and better serve the diverse needs of our parents and students: Headstart, Special Education, Lucille Pierce Literacy Center, South Central Mental Health Agency, local Daycare agencies, Pre-school directors and local church affiliates. Parent surveys will be utilized to gain information in regards to parent perceptions and needs.

**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 (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.**

Opp City Schools will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy/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 disadvantaged, 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 policy/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.

**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 policy.**

Opp City Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its LEA parental involvement policy/plan under section 1116 of the ESSA: In an effort to involve parents in the development of the LEA parental involvement plan, a Parental Involvement Committee will be formed to develop the plan. Once the plan has been developed, the Federal Programs Advisory Committee will review the LEA Plan once a year. Members will be provided information regarding the requirements of ESSA, Title I and state standards regarding Parental Involvement. The committee will be made up of parents, community leaders, and school personnel.

**Sec. 1116(e)**

**In order to build capacity for parent and family engagement, the local education agency will ensure effective involvement of parents and will support a partnership among the school involved, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the local education agency shall:**

**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 Opp City Schools 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 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: Reinforcing the high quality of instruction that will help students meet high performance standards, Train parents to assist and monitor homework and to monitor their child's progress, Provide information, training, for both home and school for the following: Every Student Succeeds Act, State Performance Standards, Homework and Discipline Policies of child's teacher, School/Student Handbooks and Compacts, Available resources for parents to use at home such as parenting study tips, school web page, homework hotlines, access to student information on-line through Power School Home Access (Parent Portal) and Teacher Schoology pages, Open Door Policy to communicate with school administration and teachers, Effective parent-teacher conferencing, Remediation Resources, Individual school curriculum Evidenced Based Programs and strategies that are being implemented.

**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.**

Opp City Schools 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: Grade Level orientations are conducted for Kindergarten, Fifth, and Ninth Grades to discuss transition needs. Orientation meetings for all other grades are conducted as well for informational purposes regarding school operations, transportation, meal pricing and options, school supplies, grade level curriculum, homework policies, code of conduct and introduction of staff. Information regarding special services such as Special Education, remediation classes, tutoring, Title I services, and after-school programs (tutoring) are addressed by the system program director. The LEA will provide parents with Title I budget and program information at the Title I annual meeting for each Title I school

**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.**

Opp City Schools have the responsibility to educate all children and to include parents by reinforcing the high quality of instruction that will help students meet high performance standards. To ensure this occurs, OCS will provide information, training, for both home and school for the following:

- Every Student Succeeds Act,
- State Performance Standards,
- Homework and Discipline Policies of child's teacher,
- School/Student Handbooks and Compacts,
- Available resources for parents to use at home such as parenting study tips, school web page, homework hotlines, access to student information on-line through Power School Home Access (Parent Portal),
- Open Door Policy to communicate with school administration and teachers,
- Effective parent-teacher conferencing,
- Remediation Resources,
- Individual school curriculum and Evidenced Based Programs and strategies that are being implemented.

**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.**

Opp City Schools provides 3 Pre-K programs for 18 students through the Office of School Readiness Grant. The program is housed on the campus of Opp Elementary School and is taught by certified teachers and teacher assistants. The program follows the academic and attendance schedule of the elementary school and district. At the beginning of school, each individual sends home a parent interest inventory. Parents that are interested in volunteering at the schools submit their wishes back to individual schools. Duties of parents include reading and listening with students, volunteering for field trips, teacher support, donation of professional services, and guest speakers. The Pre-K Programs are embedded in the elementary school environment which provides both students and parents a sense of connectivity and familiarity with school operations and atmosphere.

**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 information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities are sent to parents in a language and format they can understand. Education jargon and acronyms that may be unfamiliar to parents should be avoided. TransAct is used to provide parents with forms in different languages that are needed to comply with Every Student Succeeds Act.

**N. Describe how the local education agency will ensure it provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.**

The LEA will involve 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 or 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.

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

The Federal Programs coordinator will participate in meetings with Schoolwide Committees to coordinate activities and provide guidance for allowable expenditures that may be needed to facilitate the activity(s). Results from parent surveys, Principal's suggestion box, and committee suggestions shall be considered when developing activities and training for teachers. Activities aimed toward fostering student achievement and academic well-being will be a priority in establishing an effective home-school communication process.

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

The Federal Programs coordinator will participate in meetings with Schoolwide Committees to coordinate activities and provide guidance for allowable expenditures that may be needed to facilitate the activity(s). Results from parent surveys, Principal's suggestion box, and committee suggestions shall be considered when developing activities and training for teachers. Activities aimed toward fostering student achievement and academic well-being will be a priority in establishing an effective home-school communication process.

**Q. Describe how the local education agency 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.**

Discretionary Activities: The LEA will support the following: involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training. Provide 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. The LEA will pay 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. The LEA will train 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. The LEA will adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement. The LEA will establish a LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs. The LEA will develop 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.

**R. Describe how the local education agency may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.**

Opp City Schools has the responsibility to educate all children and to include parents by reinforcing the high quality of instruction that will help students meet high Performance standards, train parents to assist and monitor homework and to monitor their child's progress. The LEA will provide information for both home and school for the following: Every Student Succeeds Act, State Performance Standards, Homework and Discipline Policies of child's teacher, School/Student Handbooks and Compacts, available resources for parents to use at home such as parenting study tips, school web page, homework hotlines, access to student information on-line through Power School Home Access (Parent Portal) and Teacher Schoology Lesson Pages, Open Door Policy to communicate with school administration and teachers, effective parent-teacher conferencing, remediation resources, individual school curriculum and evidenced Based programs and strategies that are being implemented.

**S. Describe how the local education agency 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.**

The LEA, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, will arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, for those

parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school. Each individual school will have informational videos of important information and trainings posted on their website so parents can view at the convenience in the event they cannot attend meetings. The website will provide parents as a resource to retrieve school and individual classroom information. Each individual school utilizes One Call Now as a communication resource. Social media outlets are used in a positive manner to broaden access to school and district information.

**T. Describe how the local education agency may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.**

The LEA will develop Parent Involvement Engagement Activities and Strategies jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the sign in sheet and agendas of meetings. Each school will develop their Parent Involvement Goals and Strategies as represented in their Continuous Improvement Plan

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

In an effort to involve parents in the development of the LEA parental involvement plan, a Parental Involvement Committee will be formed to develop the plan. Once the plan has been developed, the Federal Programs Advisory Committee will review the LEA Plan once a year. Members will be provided information regarding the requirements of ESSA, Title I and state standards regarding Parental Involvement, The committee will be made up of parents, community leaders, and school personnel.

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

Opp City Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under the following programs: The LEA will work with the following programs to give people the chance to make suggestions for how we can include others and improve our outreach regarding parental involvement and better serve the diverse needs of our parents and students. HeadStart, Special Education, Lucille Pierce Literacy Center, South Central Mental health, local daycares, Pre-K (OSR), and local church and counseling affiliates. Sec. 1116(f )

**W. Describe how the local education agency will 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), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.**

Opp City Schools 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 information related to the school and parent programs, meeting, and other activities are sent to parents in a language and format they can understand. Education jargon and acronyms that may be unfamiliar to parents should be avoided. TransAct is used to provide parents with forms in different languages that are needed to comply with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

**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**

A Parental Involvement Committee that was formed and created the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Once developed, the Federal Programs Advisory Committee will review the LEA Plan annually. Members will be provided information regarding the requirements of ESSA, Title I and state standards regarding Parental Involvement. The committee will be made up of parents, community leaders, and school personnel.

**The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before: 10/01/2025**

**PLAN APPROVED BY (Person or Entity) Sharon Spurlin**

**DATE OF APPROVAL 09/15/2025**