Thurgood Marshall Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy

1. Describe how Thurgood Marshall Middle School will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the District 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).

Each Title I school has an Annual Parent Title I meeting in September of every year. There are also scheduled meetings with parents to aid in the development and revision of the Title I Consolidated Plan, Parental Involvement Plans, Homeless Plan, Foster Care and EL plans. Each school’s CIP team has parent members as well. Parent input is sought on all plans at both the district and school levels.

Parent input and involvement is very important in Conecuh County schools. Teachers maintain parent contact logs to document when parents meet with them both individually and as a group. Parent activities includes but not limited to:

Parent conferences, Annual Title I Meetings, Parent surveys, social media contacts such as School Status, test results, workshops on homework, effective parenting and Parenting Nights. Parents also have access to the Parents Resource room at Conecuh County Board of Education. Parents have computer and internet access as well as parental resources.

1. Describe how the district 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.

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1. Describe how the district 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.

A Parent Involvement Plan is developed and revised each year for every school and district plan for Conecuh County schools. Parental input regarding funding is obtained at all schools and within the district. Plans that assure that parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate with other relevant Federal, State and Local guidelines.

1. Describe how the district 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).

While we believe that no barriers currently exist, Conecuh County schools strive to provide parent meetings at times most convenient for parents.

1. Describe how the district 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.

All school personnel and teachers work with parents to provide strategies to assist with learning of their children. Topics are addressed through Social Media, weekly newsletters, parent workshops and conferences. These topics include: Homework tips, College and Career Ready Standards, Powerschool information, grading procedures, attendance expectations, and continued learning. Each school receives an allocated amount for Parental Involvement. The district also sets aside additional funds for Parental Involvement

1. Describe how the district will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents 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.

Conecuh County schools use several strategies to support successful school and family interactions. Schools hold parent conference days annually. Conecuh County schools use Facebook and district web pages to keep parents informed of school activities. A rapid notification system is also used to inform parents of important events and dates through school status. This platform keeps parents aware of academic achievement and attendance as well. Also, parents are highly encouraged to participate in school activities and volunteer for a variety of opportunities and activities.

1. Describe how the district 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.

Conecuh County schools will use the findings of evaluations to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement. Based on survey results and parental input, Conecuh County schools will continue to implement the following well-rounded strategies: Parent Surveys, Parent Meetings both formal and informal, and Communication through Social Media and rapid notification system.

1. Describe how the district will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board compromised 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.

Conecuh County schools holds an advisory committee annually for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Members of the committee include elementary and high school parents, minority parents, and parents of special education students to assure that a representative group of parents is included.

1. Describe how the district 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.

Schools conduct meetings at the beginning of the year to inform parents of Alabama College and Career Ready Standards, grading procedures, attendance requirements, and course expectation. Parents are given links to Powerschool and the schools’ websites and shown how to access information on monitoring student progress. Meetings are scheduled with parents as requested when students need additional academic assistance. All communication is transmitted in a language that parents can understand based on their Home Language surveys. A full time ESL translator is employed.

1. 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.

Parents are provided materials and training to help them to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement during Statewide Parenting Day, schedules Literacy and Math nights, through the district and school websites, and other parent meetings. Conecuh County schools also has a Parent Resource Area located at the Conecuh County Board of Education and at each school location. Parents have access to computers and internet service as well as parental information regarding help with homework, parenting and other needed resources.

1. 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, build ties between parents and the school.

Teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, school leaders, and other staff attend professional development each year. The professional development that provides instruction on how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and builds ties between parents and the schools.

1. 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.

Conecuh County schools coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs and activities with all other programs, including preschool programs. Conecuh County schools also houses a Parent Resource Area located at the Conecuh County BOE. Parents have access to computers and internet services as well as parental information posted on the district website. Parental involvement is highly encouraged and activities are sent home to encourage parental involvement.

1. 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.

Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is communicated to parents through written notes, social media, school websites, school status and a rapid notification system. For non-English speaking parents communication is sent through TransAct or utilizing our fulltime employed translator/interpreter.

1. Describe how the district will ensure it provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

Parent requests for additional support for parental involvement activities will be monitored and implemented, as necessary.

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

Parents who have expertise in training areas pertinent to educators are encouraged to provide training to improve the educational experience of students. Examples of parent volunteers include engineers, gardeners, outdoor classroom experts, and technology integrationists.

1. Describe how the district 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.

Literacy materials for necessary literacy training will be purchased through Title I or other funds as necessary to ensure availability of training and materials.

1. Describe how the district 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.

Meetings are offered at various times to provide parental choice that is convenient for their schedule. Child care options may be available at the schools during large meetings such as Parent Project. Requests for transportation are handled on a case by case basis. All information is also disseminated through school websites, social media, school flyers, and emails to assure that parents who were not in attendance receive the same information.

1. Describe how the district may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

Conecuh County schools enlists the PTO to encourage and enhance the involvement of other parents in their children’s education and school activities. Membership drives are held each year to increase the number of parents involved.

1. Describe how the district ay 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.

Conecuh County schools scheduled meetings at a variety of times with parents to enable them to attend conferences at school in order to maximize parental involvement and participation. In home conferences are available upon request.

1. Describe how the district may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.

Conecuh County schools may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement as we learn of additional beneficial strategies.

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

The Federal Programs Director, EL Coordinator and Parent Engagement Coordinator establish district wide Parent Advisory Councils to provide advice on all matters related to parent involvement as well as district plans and procedures.

1. Describe how the district may develop appropriate roles for community based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

Community based organizations and businesses are involved in advisory committees and have input into parental involvement activities in this capacity. In addition, the Career Technical Advisory Committee provides guidance and suggestions for appropriate parent activities.

1. Describe how the district 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.

The Conecuh County Board of Education Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agrees on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A program as evidence by minutes, agendas and sign in sheets uploaded in eGap. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I schools.

This plan was approved by the Conecuh County Board of Education on October 17, 2024.