

RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY
DIVISIONWIDE PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES

The Rappahannock County Public School Division agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- A. **Involve parents and family members** in jointly developing the local educational agency's Title I, Part A plan under section 1112, and the development of school support and improvement plans under section 1111(d).
- B. **Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary** to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the LEA in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities. These activities must 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;
- C. **Coordinate and integrate** parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs;
- D. **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, including identifying—
 - Barriers to greater participation by parents/families 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 needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
 - Strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- E. **Use the findings of such evaluation** to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section; and

F. **Involve parents in the activities of the schools**, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the LEA to adequately represent the needs of the population. This advisory board will help develop, revise, and review the parent and family engagement policy.

G. **Implement an effective means of outreach to parents of English learners**, in a language the parents can understand, to inform them regarding how they can—

- be involved in the education of their children; and
- be active participants in assisting their children to—
 - attain English proficiency;
 - achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education; and
 - meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DIVISION WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DIVISION WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Rappahannock County Public Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its division wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA.
 - RCES will host an information table on the day of the school's Open House.
 - Curriculum information will be made available to all parents on the school division website.
 - Assessment information will be made available to all parents on the school division website.
 - The division will establish a Title I Advisory Council, which will establish a meeting schedule that will be approved by the Council members.
 - Meeting agendas and minutes will be available via the school website.
2. Rappahannock County Public Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - Title I Advisory Council meetings will be open to all parents.
 - The Title I Advisory Council will provide a process to allow parents to review available data with school staff and to provide input to assist the school in modifying and updating School Improvement Plans.
 - The Title I Advisory Council will provide ongoing communication and monitoring of the progress and goals of the Title I program

3. Rappahannock County Public 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 Title I Advisory Council will work with the Title I reading specialist and building level administration to suggest and plan parental involvement activities.
- RCES will conduct at least one Family Literacy Night program.

4. Rappahannock County Public Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:

- Rappahannock County Public Schools will work collaboratively with the Rappahannock County Preschool Programs/VPI to provide parents with kindergarten readiness opportunities
- Title I funds will be available to provide leveled reading materials for Rappahannock County Department of Social Services

5. Rappahannock County Public 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 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 division 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 Title I Advisory Committee will conduct a parent survey each May to determine the level of participation and to identify barriers that have prevented participation. Parent surveys will be school-based and offered in both English and Spanish. Each school's Title I Advisory Council will use the results of the survey to develop a parental involvement goal for the next school year.

6. Rappahannock County Public 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, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- a) The school division will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school division 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 division 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:
- Literacy activities will be developed by reading specialists.
 - Pamphlets will be distributed by each school to parents of children registering for kindergarten.
 - Literacy web links will be available on the school website.
 - Notices of parental involvement activities will be available in Spanish as needed.
- c) The school division 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:
- Working with parents and community outreach will be a component of the division’s beginning teacher mentoring program
 - The Title I Coordinator will offer parental involvement topics for workshops and faculty meetings.
- d. The school division 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:

- **Rappahannock County Public Schools will establish and publish a school calendar for parent/teacher conferences.**
- **School and teacher websites will provide schedules, class work, homework, school events, supply lists, and contact information.**
- **The school's parental involvement policy will be available on the school website.**
- **Information regarding how to access division curriculum and state standards will be available on the school website.**
- **Information on how parents can help their children improve performance on Virginia Standards of Learning tests will be provided to parents via school newsletters and school websites.**
- **Other reasonable support for parental involvement activities will be provided as parents may request per section 1116.**

PART III: ANNUAL CALENDAR OF TITLE I EVENTS:

- **August- Open House- Dissemination of Title I information**
- **August-September: Individual Parent Meetings to Explain Compact by Appointment**
- **September/October- Title I Advisory Council Meeting- Planning for Year based on survey results**
- **Spring- Family Literacy Night**
- **April- Title I Advisory Council Meeting- Presentation of Title I Application for parent input on funding**
- **Two additional parent nights will be scheduled for Title I parents only**
- **One School One Book will be held in conjunction with the statewide event**
- **May- Distribute Title I Survey**

PART IV: ADOPTION

This LEA's Parental 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 October 28, 2021 virtual meeting.

This regulation was adopted by the Rappahannock County Public Schools on November 9, 2021 and will be in effect for the period of two years. The LEA will make this this regulation available to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before December 1, 2023.

(Signature of Superintendent)

(Date)

**(Parent Signature)*

(Title I Coordinator)

*On file with Title I Coordinator

