

Quitman County School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2023-2024
Revised May 25, 2023
173 Kaigler Road
Georgetown, GA 39854
Quitman.k12.ga.us
(229) 334-4298

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members 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.
- (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 1116 of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).



About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Quitman County School District (QCSD) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe QCSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. QCSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

Jointly Developed

During annual Input meetings in FY2023, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this Combined School & District Parent and Family Engagement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. The FEC (Family Engagement Coordinator) sent notifications to all parents informing them about these meeting via flyers & social media. During these meetings, parents also reviewed and discussed the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP) and the School Improvement Plans. Additionally, Parent Input meetings were used to develop parents and increase their capacity to increase student achievement.

Upon final revision, the Combined School & District Parent and Family Engagement Plan was incorporated into the CLIP which is submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time using the school district website or by submitting written comments to their child's school. All feedback received through May 2023 was considered for revisions to this plan.

The district plans to distribute this plan by posting it on the district website, placing it in parent resource center, disseminating it during the annual Title I meetings in the Fall, placing it in student handbooks, and placing the plan on the Parent Team in Microsoft Teams.

Communications

The FEC will communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone and text messages, social media, school newsletters, and flyers. The FEC will share information in English and other languages to the extent possible through written communications, meetings, conferences, and family engagement events in order for families to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as ways parents can monitor their child's progress.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the district family engagement coordinator (FEC) will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the FEC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district will convene a meeting in the Fall with the principal. The FEC will review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

Reservation of Funds

If required by law, QCSD will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 2023-2024 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this plan and as described in federal law. Furthermore, QCSD will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

The FEC hosted an Input Meeting/School Improvement Meeting for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds could be used in the upcoming year. Survey results and notes from these meetings are reviewed to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the parenting set aside of the Title I-A budget. If you have suggestions, please contact the FEC located at the school, or the Title I-A Director located at district office.

Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

State of the District Input Meeting ~ Spring 2024

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Quitman County School District as well as review and provide input into the Combined District and School Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the Consolidated LEA Improvement Plan for the 2024-2025 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be sent home to all parents and posted in advance of the meeting. The PEC will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website.

School Improvement Input Meeting ~ Spring 2024

During these meetings, the PEC will host a forum for parents and family members to participate in discussions to review the schoolwide plans and the Combined School & District's Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Input will be provided on the family engagement budget and topics for school staff training. The FEC will send invitations home, use social media including the district website, and use Microsoft Teams to invite/notify parents & students about the date and time of the forum/meeting.

Input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget and school staff training for parents to provide their comments.

Parents/Guardians unable to attend these meetings? Please visit [Microsoft Teams/Parenting Team](#) to review the meeting documents and leave your input.



Annual Title I Meeting~ Fall 2023

At the beginning of the school year, each Title I school will host a meeting to inform all parents of the Title I requirements and the school's participation in and parent's rights under Title I.

School-Parent Compacts

As part of this plan, all Title I schools, along with our families will jointly develop school-parent compacts to build and develop a partnership to help our students master the challenging state academic standards. These compacts serve as agreements between parents, teachers, and students to work together to make sure all students reach grade level standards by following and accomplishing goals set forth by parents, teachers, and students. The FEC will annually revise compacts, distribute them to all families, and review them at parent/teacher conferences.

Building Capacity

The FEC will build partnerships between its Title I Schools, families, and community with the goal of developing mutual support for student achievement. To develop capacity for this support, QCSD will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives.

Of Parents – The FEC will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The FEC works with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information related to the State’s challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided. The FEC will also offer assistance to parents in understanding use of its online student information system and other digital resources, including the harms of copyright piracy, through its technology specialists or designee. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems, and social media postings.

Parents have the opportunity to checkout laptops to take home for 2-week periods. The iPads contain resources and materials such as study guides, practice assessments, and materials for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials are also available at all Title I schools.

The FEC will coordinate and integrate the district’s family engagement programs 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 such as, the local preschool program and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The FEC will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. During the spring and summer transition program, schools will host: Kindergarten Ready/Summer transition event, Middle and High School Transition event, and College and Career Fair so parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Of School Staff – The FEC will conduct four trainings during the school year for principals and school staff to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be delivered to the faculty and staff of Title I schools. QCSD will also conduct training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, the FEC will train school staff on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents’ preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events, when needed. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the FEC will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Combined Parent and Family Engagement Plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums/Meetings.

Beginning in March, the FEC will send home a survey and or email a link of the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district website.

website for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, the FEC will also use the School Improvement Input Meeting to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of children eligible to receive Title I services. This includes designing strategies for more effective family engagement.

The FEC will use the findings from the input meetings and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective parent/family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its Combined Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district parent/family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with Student Support Services Personnel to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

Annual Title I Meeting
Fall 2024

Annual Parent Survey
Spring 2024

School Improvement Input Meeting
Spring 2024

State of the District Input Meeting
Spring 2024

For Schools

Principal and FEC Meetings

Monthly Leadership Team Meetings

Superintendent Cabinet Meetings
Monthly Meetings

Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual State of the District meeting.

This plan was adopted by the Quitman County School District on May 25, 2023, and will be in effect for the 2023-2024 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children during Fall semester.

