

Walthall County School District
Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2023-2024

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PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Section 1118(a)(2)

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each Local Educational Agency (LEA) that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) as required in Section 1112(b)(P) of ESEA.

Assurances

By my signature on this policy, I hereby certify that the LEA will comply with the requirements of the ESEA and agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and,

including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand. Section 1118(f)

• If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education. Section 1118(b)(4)

• The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. Section 1118(a)(3)(A)

• The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement defined in Section 9101 (32) and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition: Parental involvement means the participation of parents 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 at school;

(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 1118 of the ESEA.

1. The Walthall County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the following required policies/plans:

- **LEA-wide parental involvement policy [Section 1118(a)(2)];**
- **LEA plan [Sections 1112 (c)(H), 1112(d)(1)];**
- **School review and improvement under Section 1116 [Sections 1118(a)(2)(A), 1116(a)(1)(D), 1116(b)(3)(A)]; and**
- **How the funds reserved for parental involvement will be spent [Section 1118(a)(2)].**

Parent Involvement Policy:

- 1. Ensure that each Title I school conducts an Annual Title I Meeting that includes a Title I parent orientation, with agenda and sign in sheets, within the first month of school.**
- 2. Provide parents with the opportunity to be involved in the development of the LEA plan and parent involvement policy through parent surveys and participation on the district planning committee and to provide all parents with a written copy of the parent involvement plan and district policy by September 30. Section [1118(a)(2), 1112 (c)(H), 1112(d)(1)];**
- 3. Provide continuous parent involvement information on the Parent Connection web page.**
- 4. Provide opportunities for parents to meet personally with the principal.**

LEA Plan and 1% Parent Involvement Budget:

- 5. The district Title I planning committee is comprised of parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, community representatives, instructional coaches, and school principals, from each Title I school along with and district level administrators. School planning committees gather data through parent surveys and parent focus groups to gather suggested revisions the district parent involvement policy (PIP), Home-School Compact, School-wide Plan (SWP), and 1% parent involvement budget. The district planning committee will evaluate the documents and make revisions as necessary. District planning begins with a district meeting of all the school planning committees to discuss the process and examine the district PIP and the parent involvement 1% fund budget. The committees then meet by schools to review and revise as necessary the school PIP, 1% parent involvement budget, home-school compacts, and the SWP. The planning process concludes with a final district planning meeting to make final plan revisions and adopt the documents for the upcoming school-year. Section 1118(a)(2)**

School Review and Improvement:

- 6. The district will assist in gathering needs assessment data and developing the annual Title I evaluation and needs assessments.**
- 7. The district planning committee will review the progress from the previous year. Section 1116 [Sections 1118(a)(2)(A), 1116(a)(1)(D), 1116(b)(3)(A)]**

Program	Coordination
Title I, Part A	The district will assist in the planning and implementation of coordination meetings between Title I K-3 schools and local Head Start and Child-care providers. <i>Sections 1118(a)(2)(D) and 1118(e)(4)</i>
Title I, Part C	Assist with the needs of migrant students and families and translation needs of non-English speaking students and parents. <i>Sections 1118(a)(2)(D) and 1118(e)(4)</i>
Title X	Assist with providing for needs, including transportation services, of homeless students. <i>Sections 1118(a)(2)(D) and 1118(e)(4)</i>

4. The **Waltham County School District** 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 [Section 1118(a)(2)(E)].

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The district will meet with Title I principals to review/revise the parent survey. 2. Ensure the parent survey is conducted. 3. Assist in evaluating survey data for use in evaluating the parent involvement policy. 4. Make recommendations to Title I schools for strategies in improving parent involvement. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Section 1118(a)(2)(E)</i></p> |
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If all activities will be conducted at the school level, check here. If checked, skip to question 6.

5. If the LEA plans to implement LEA-wide activities, describe the actions the LEA will take to build the schools' and parents' 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 [Sections 1118(a)(2)(C), 1118(e)(1-14)].

Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
N/A				

2. The Waltham County School District will take the following actions to provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities which build the capacity of parents to improve the academic achievement of their child and overall school performance [Section 1118(a)(2)(B and C) and 1118(e)(1-14)]. Include a description of the process the LEA will use to review the school-level PIP to ensure compliance with all requirements of Section 1118 [34 CFR 200.30(e)]. Include information on how the LEA will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request [Section 1118(e)(14)].

- 1. The district will provide coordination and technical assistance to Title I principals in implementing parent involvement activities to improve student achievement by providing schools with state and federal guidance and regulations regarding parent involvement activities and capacity building, and by maintaining a federal programs technical assistance intranet site containing a calendar of required activities, forms and templates, monitoring requirements, and guidance information. *Section (1118(a)(2)(B)***
- 2. The district will assist schools in:**
 - a. parent understanding of the MDE curriculum frameworks and assessments**
 - b. parent literacy and technology**
 - c. fostering teacher understanding of the value of parent involvement**
 - d. coordinating with Head Start and other local preschool programs**
 - e. translation of home-school communications**
 - f. other parent activities as requested*****Section (1118(a)(2)(C), 1118(e)(1-14)***
- 3. The district will also maintain a Parent Connection webpage on the district web site parent information about Title I, Title II, and other federal program information for parents. *Section (1118(a)(2)(C)***

3. The Waltham County School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies from Part A of Title I with other federal programs (including but not limited to Head Start, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten, Parts C and D of Title I, Title III, and Part A of Title IV) [Sections 1118 (a)(2)(D) and 1118(e)(4)].

Discretionary LEA Parental Involvement Policy Components

The LEA parental involvement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the LEA, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement [Section 1118(e)].

List all activities the LEA plans to implement:

- ✓ 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. *Section 1118(e)(8)*

- ✓ Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement. *Section 1118(e)(11)*

8. Describe how the discretionary activities listed above will be implemented.

Activity	Description of Implementation Strategy	Correlation to Student Achievement	Person Responsible	Timeline
Parent Involvement Meetings	Assist in funding for childcare during meeting times	Increased parent involvement leads to higher academic achievement	Federal Program Director, School Principal, Counselor	Aug-May
Researching Best Practices in parent involvement	Assist schools in developing effective parent involvement activities	Increased parent involvement leads to higher academic achievement	Federal Program Director, School Principal, Counselor	Aug-May

(Format adopted from the Florida Department of Education District Parent Involvement Policy Template)

6. Describe the professional development activities the LEA will provide, with the assistance of its schools and parents, to educate staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; the implementation and coordination of parent programs; and how to build ties between parents and the school [Section 1118 (e)(3)].

Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
Home/School Communication Training	School Counselor	Increased parent involvement in child's academic learning leads to higher achievement	Ongoing	Percentage of proficient students as measured by the MCT2

Section 1118 (e)(3)

7. Describe how the LEA will provide full opportunities for participation in parental involvement activities for all parents (including parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children). Include how the LEA plans to share information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports, and other activities in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practical, in a language parents can understand [Section 1118(e)(5) and 1118(f)].

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure the utilization of the district automated calling system to contact all parents about upcoming activities. 2. Assist with translation of parent correspondence based on needs or request of parents. 3. Assist in securing, to the extent practicable, translator services for schools. 4. Assist with handicapped accessibility for parents of all district facilities. |
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Section 1118(e)(5) and 1118(f)