



Family and Community Engagement (FACE) HANDBOOK

★
FISCAL YEAR 2027

*Guidance for Building Strong Partnerships
Among Schools, Families, and the Community*



FAMILIES



STUDENTS



PARTNERSHIPS



ACHIEVEMENT



EXCELLENCE

OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

★ Official District Publication ★ Revised July 2026



BOARD APPROVAL

The Walthall County School Board approves the
Walthall County School District
Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Handbook
for Fiscal Year 2027.



EFFECTIVE DATE: _____



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Deferred

☐

Other



SUPERINTENDENT: _____



PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION: _____



FY27 FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (FACE) MANUAL

Walthall County School District
Office of Federal Programs
Fiscal Year 2027

Prepared for:

Walthall County Board of Education

Superintendent
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Board Approval

This manual was adopted by the Walthall County School District Board of Education.

Board Approval Date _____

Effective Date _____

Review Date _____

Superintendent _____

Board President _____

Board Approval

The Walthall County School District Board of Education approves this handbook as the district's official framework for Family and Community Engagement (FACE). The handbook establishes district expectations for planning, implementing, evaluating, and documenting Family and Community Engagement in accordance with applicable federal law, Mississippi Department of Education guidance, Board policy, and district priorities.

Board Action	_____
Effective Date	_____
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Review Cycle	Annual

Document Control and Revision History

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Foreword from the Superintendent

Family and Community Engagement is fundamental to achieving the mission of the Walthall County School District. This handbook establishes a consistent district framework for planning, implementing, evaluating, and continuously improving Family and Community Engagement across all schools while supporting student achievement and strengthening partnerships among schools, families, and the community.

Dr. Bradley Brumfield
Superintendent
Walthall County School District

Introduction and How to Use This Handbook

This Board Edition serves as the district's official framework for Family and Community Engagement (FACE). It establishes district philosophy, expectations, and accountability while allowing schools flexibility to implement activities that reflect local needs.

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SECTION II

FOUNDATIONS OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Chapter 1 – District Philosophy, Mission, Vision, and Legal Authority

Purpose

This chapter establishes the philosophy and guiding principles that support Family and Community Engagement (FACE) throughout Walthall County School District and identifies the legal authority that guides district implementation.

District Philosophy

Walthall County School District believes that fostering meaningful partnerships among schools, families, and the community is essential for student achievement, positive school culture, and ongoing growth. Recognizing family and community engagement as a shared responsibility encourages staff to see their vital role in supporting student success.

District Vision

The Family and Community Engagement Program supports the official Vision of the Walthall County School District.

Create a productive school culture for change that increases teacher effectiveness, improves student proficiency, and builds public confidence.

Meaningful Family and Community Engagement contributes to this vision by strengthening communication, increasing stakeholder confidence, encouraging community partnerships, and promoting a culture of shared responsibility for student success.

District Mission

The Family and Community Engagement Program supports the official Mission of the Walthall County School District.

Teachers teaching. Students learning. Schools improving.

All Family and Community Engagement initiatives are designed to strengthen this mission by creating collaborative partnerships that support teaching, learning, and continuous school improvement.

Alignment with the District Strategic Plan

Family and Community Engagement supports the district's strategic plan by strengthening communication, collaboration, stakeholder participation, and shared responsibility for student success.

Legal Authority

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Mississippi Department of Education guidance
- WCSD Board policy
- Other applicable federal and state laws

District Responsibilities

- Establish districtwide expectations for Family and Community Engagement.
- Provide guidance and support to schools.
- Promote equitable access to engagement opportunities.
- Monitor implementation and support continuous improvement.
- Review this handbook annually.

Key Takeaways

- Family and Community Engagement supports the WCSD mission.
- Partnerships among schools, families, and the community strengthen student success.
- ESSA, MDE guidance, and Board policy guide district expectations.
- Schools have flexibility while operating within the district framework.

Chapter 2 – District Family and Community Engagement Framework

Guiding Principles for Meaningful Partnerships

Purpose

This chapter establishes the districtwide framework for Family and Community Engagement and the principles that guide implementation across all WCSD schools.

District Framework

The district encourages schools to build meaningful partnerships that support learning, strengthen relationships, and reflect local school needs while remaining aligned with district expectations.

Guiding Principles

Principle	Description
Shared Responsibility	Schools, families, students, and the community share responsibility for student success.
Meaningful Communication	Open, timely, and respectful communication builds trust.
Inclusive Participation	Engagement opportunities should be welcoming and accessible.
Community Partnerships	Partnerships expand opportunities for students and families.
Continuous Improvement	Stakeholder feedback guides future planning.

District Expectations

- Maintain a School Family and Community Engagement Plan.
- Provide meaningful opportunities for family and community engagement.
- Communicate regularly with families.
- Conduct an annual evaluation.
- Support continuous improvement.

Stakeholder Roles

District leadership, school administrators, teachers, families, students, community partners, and the Board of Education each contribute to creating welcoming schools and supporting student achievement.

Key Takeaways

- The district framework establishes consistent expectations.
- Schools retain flexibility to meet local needs.
- Communication, collaboration, and continuous improvement are essential.
- Meaningful partnerships support student achievement.

SECTION III

DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Chapter 3 – District Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Plan

Planning for Districtwide Success

Purpose

This chapter establishes the districtwide planning framework for Family and Community Engagement (FACE) and identifies the expectations for annual planning and coordination across the Walthall County School District.

District Goals

- Strengthen partnerships among schools, families, and the community.
- Support student achievement through meaningful engagement.
- Promote equitable access and participation.
- Encourage collaboration and continuous improvement.

Annual Planning Process

The District FACE Plan is reviewed annually to ensure alignment with district priorities, stakeholder feedback, federal requirements, and Mississippi Department of Education guidance.

Stakeholder Involvement

Families, school staff, administrators, community members, and advisory groups are encouraged to participate in the annual planning and review process.

Coordination of Programs

Family and Community Engagement should be coordinated with other district initiatives and federal programs to maximize resources and strengthen student outcomes.

Annual Review

The Office of Federal Programs will facilitate an annual review of the District FACE Plan and recommend revisions as needed. Documentation requirements are addressed in Chapter 6.

Key Takeaways

- Planning is reviewed annually.
- Stakeholder input strengthens district decisions.
- Programs should be coordinated whenever practical.
- Documentation is addressed in Chapter 6.

Chapter 4 – District Expectations for School-Level Family and Community Engagement

Supporting Consistent Implementation Across Schools

Purpose

This chapter establishes district expectations while allowing schools flexibility to implement Family and Community Engagement practices that reflect local needs.

District Expectations

- Maintain an annual School FACE Plan.
- Provide meaningful engagement opportunities throughout the year.
- Communicate regularly with families.
- Seek stakeholder input during planning and evaluation.
- Review implementation annually.

District Commitment

The district will provide guidance, technical assistance, professional learning opportunities, and resources to support successful implementation.

School Flexibility

Schools may select activities and partnerships that best meet the needs of their students and communities while remaining aligned with district expectations.

Accessibility

Schools should strive to reduce barriers to participation by using understandable communication and offering opportunities that are accessible to all families whenever practical.

Stakeholder Participation

Schools are encouraged to involve families, students, staff, and community partners in planning and evaluating engagement efforts.

Key Takeaways

- District expectations provide consistency.
- Schools retain flexibility.
- Accessibility and stakeholder participation are priorities.
- Support is provided through district guidance and resources.

Chapter 5 – Annual Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

Using Data to Strengthen Engagement

Purpose

This chapter outlines the district's process for evaluating Family and Community Engagement and using results to strengthen future planning.

Annual Evaluation

The district and schools should annually evaluate the effectiveness of Family and Community Engagement efforts using participation data, stakeholder feedback, and other relevant information.

Stakeholder Feedback

Feedback from families, staff, students, and community partners should be considered when identifying strengths, barriers, and opportunities for improvement.

District Review Process

The Office of Federal Programs will review annual evaluation results and recommend revisions to district guidance, planning, and professional learning as appropriate.

Continuous Improvement

Evaluation results should be used to strengthen communication, partnerships, and engagement strategies that support student achievement.

Planning for the Next Year

Findings from the annual evaluation should inform future goals, planning, and resource allocation.

Key Takeaways

- Annual evaluation drives continuous improvement.
- Stakeholder feedback informs decisions.
- District review supports consistent implementation.
- Evaluation results guide future planning.

CHAPTER 6

MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION

Ensuring Accountability and Continuous Growth

Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to establish the Walthall County School District's expectations for monitoring the implementation of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) and maintaining documentation that demonstrates districtwide implementation, accountability, and continuous improvement. Monitoring is intended to provide guidance, support, and accountability while promoting meaningful partnerships among schools, families, and the community.

District Monitoring

- Support continuous improvement.
- Ensure alignment with district priorities.
- Promote meaningful engagement opportunities.
- Provide technical assistance to schools.
- Verify that required documentation is maintained.
- Review annual evaluation results to strengthen future planning.

District monitoring is intended to strengthen implementation through collaboration and support rather than solely to evaluate compliance.

Documentation Expectations

Schools are expected to maintain documentation that accurately reflects implementation of their Family and Community Engagement program.

- School Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Plan
- Annual evaluation summary
- Advisory committee meeting agendas, sign-in sheets, and minutes
- Annual Title I Meeting documentation (participating Title I schools)
- School-Parent Compact distribution documentation (participating Title I schools)
- Family communication samples
- Evidence of stakeholder participation
- Documentation of district or school engagement activities
- Board-approved district documents, when applicable

Documentation should be maintained throughout the school year and organized to support annual review, continuous improvement, and applicable monitoring activities.

Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement is an essential component of Family and Community Engagement.

- Review participation data and stakeholder feedback annually.
- Use evaluation results to identify strengths and barriers.

- Improve communication and engagement strategies.
- Revise district and school plans as appropriate.
- Support student achievement through meaningful partnerships.

District Support

The Office of Federal Programs will provide guidance, technical assistance, and resources to help schools implement effective Family and Community Engagement practices.

- Professional learning opportunities
- Technical assistance
- Planning resources
- Monitoring feedback
- Continuous improvement support

Key Takeaways

- Monitoring supports improvement, collaboration, and accountability.
- Schools are expected to maintain documentation that reflects meaningful implementation.
- Annual evaluation results should guide future planning.
- Continuous improvement strengthens partnerships among schools, families, and the community.
- District support helps schools successfully implement Family and Community Engagement.

Appendix A

District Annual Family and Community Engagement Planning Calendar

The calendar below provides a suggested annual timeline. Schools may adjust activities to meet local needs while remaining aligned with district expectations.

Timeframe	Suggested Activities	Suggested Documentation
July–August	Review District & School FACE Plans; Annual Title I Meeting (Title I schools); distribute School–Parent Compact	Agendas, sign-in sheets, plans, minutes, photos, and online platforms
September–October	Family engagement activities, community partnerships, and communication	Flyers, newsletters, photos, phone calls, online communication platforms
November–December	Stakeholder feedback; mid-year review	Meeting notes, agendas, minutes, and sign-ins
January–March	Capacity-building and engagement activities	Activity documentation, SAMS
April–May	Annual evaluation; revise plans for next year	Evaluation results
June	District review and planning	Updated district plan

Appendix B

Required Documentation Checklist

The following checklist identifies examples of documentation schools should maintain.

Documentation	Completed
School Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Plan	☐
District FACE Plan	☐
Annual Title I Meeting documentation (Title I schools)	☐
School-Parent Compact distribution (Title I schools)	☐
Advisory committee agendas, sign-in sheets, and minutes	☐
Family communication samples	☐
Annual evaluation summary	☐
Evidence of stakeholder input	☐
Documentation of engagement activities	☐

Commitment to Family and Community Engagement

Walthall County School District is committed to fostering meaningful partnerships among schools, families, and the community. Through collaboration, communication, and continuous improvement, the district will continue to support student achievement and strengthen relationships that contribute to every student's success.

This handbook shall be reviewed annually and revised as necessary to reflect changes in district priorities, Board policy, applicable federal requirements, and Mississippi Department of Education guidance.

Teachers teaching. Students learning. Schools improving.