

Clayton County Public Schools
2021 - 2022 Parent and Family Engagement Plan

What is Parent and Family Engagement?

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- 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.
- The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) has developed this Parent and Family Engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. Furthermore, this plan will describe the district's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity of its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to reach the district's goals for increased student academic achievement.

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 parent and 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. CCPS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parental and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116 (b) and include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116 (d) of ESSA.

Jointly Developed

In February, March, April, and May 2021, all parents including parents of homeless, migrant, neglected and delinquent children, as well as parents of children served by Title I and attending private schools, were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas ~~on~~ to improve the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. During this meeting, parents also reviewed and discussed the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP) and the District Plan of Support for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents were notified of the meetings via several channels of communication, including: Channel 24 (CCPS closed-circuit TV station), district and school websites, and flyers distributed throughout the community and the district office. In addition, parents submitted their feedback via U.S. mail, email, electronic surveys and fax.

Upon final revision and acceptance, the district parent and family engagement plan was incorporated into the CLIP, which is submitted to the Georgia Department of Education. Parents may provide feedback regarding the plan at any time by submitting written comments to their child's school or to the Office of Federal Programs. All feedback received is considered when revising the Parent and Family Engagement Plan for the current school year.

To ensure distribution of the plan, the CCPS Parent and Family Engagement Plan is posted on the district website, published the Title I Parent Handbook, and made available in all Title I Parent Resource Centers and Clayton County Public Libraries. Stakeholder meetings are also scheduled quarterly to review and provide

suggestions for the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and the plan is reviewed during Title I Parent Academy meetings.

Opportunities for parents to express concerns, ask questions or voice complaints are outlined in the Clayton County Public Schools Complaint Procedures, located in the Title I Parent Handbook and on the district's website.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the Director of Federal Programs and designated Title I Programs Specialists will provide technical assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure parent and family engagement requirements are being satisfied, and that effective parent and family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. At each Title I school, the principal is the designated contact responsible for the implementation of parent and family engagement requirements. Schools may use Title I funds to hire a Title I Parent Liaison to further support parent and family engagement.

The Office of Federal Programs will provide each Title I school with timely communication, on-site support for monitoring and compliance, and resources to help improve and strengthen parent and family engagement practices. Schools will receive on-going support for effective planning, implementation, and evaluation of their Parent and Family Engagement program. Additionally, the Office of Federal Programs will provide job-embedded professional development to assist Title I Parent Liaisons and other Title I Contacts with building parent and staff capacity to increase student achievement. During the 2021-2022 school year, meetings initially will be virtual. Face-to-face meeting will resume when CCPS leaders deem them safe.

Reservation of Funds

CCPS will reserve 1% from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in the 2021-2022 school year to carry out the parental involvement requirements listed in this plan, and as described in Section 1116 of ESSA. Furthermore, CCPS will distribute 90% of the amount reserved to all Title I schools to support their local-level parent and family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate parent involvement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations. The Office of Federal Programs ensures this set-aside is used for parental involvement by monitoring the budget development process at each school to ensure that sufficient funds have been allocated for parent and family engagement activities and by monitoring expenditures every month for each Title I school.

In addition to the 1% set aside, schools use Title I funds to operate and maintain Title I Parent Resource Centers, to hire Title I Parent Liaisons, and to print parent and family engagement documents. Additionally, Title I funds are used to purchase supplies and materials for parent activities and to advertise parent workshops and schoolwide events.

Each school will host Title I meetings for parents to provide suggestions on how these parental involvement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Comment cards and evaluations from these meetings will be reviewed by the district to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the parental involvement budget.

Opportunities for Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents 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 meetings described in this section to share their input and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students reach our student academic achievement goals.

School Title I Parent & Stakeholder Meetings: (Fall 2021 & Spring 2022)

During the Fall of 2021, Title I schools will host stakeholder input meetings, held at a variety of times to accommodate stakeholder availability. All parents and other stakeholders are welcome to provide input for the school's Title I Schoolwide Plan, Title I Targeted Assistance Plan, Parent and Family Engagement Plan, School-Parent Compact, 1% Parental Involvement Budget, and Building Staff Capacity.

During the Spring of 2022, Title I schools will host roundtable meetings, also held at a variety of times to accommodate stakeholder availability. All parents and stakeholders will engage in open forum discussion about the design and goals of the school's parent engagement program.

Each Title I school will advertise all parent and stakeholder meetings in a variety of formats, including but not limited to: announcements on the school website, posts on school social media accounts, flyers home sent via students, and call posts.

In March 2022, the district will collaborate with each Title I school to conduct a survey for parents and stakeholders to provide valuable feedback and input. The survey will contain questions related to the parental involvement budget, as well as a section for parents to provide comments.

District Title I Parent & Stakeholder Meetings: (Quarterly)

CCPS will host district-level stakeholder input meetings at a variety of times and locations to accommodate stakeholder availability. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear the latest updates from the Office of Federal Programs, as well as review and provide input on the CCPS Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan, the district 1% Parent and Family Engagement Budget, and the CLIP for the upcoming school year.

Notices regarding these meetings, as well as the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, will be posted on the CCPS website at www.clayton.k12.ga.us. The district will also advertise these meetings through a variety of channels, including but not limited to: Channel 24, CCPS School Messenger, Infinite Campus Parent Portal, and announcement at various school and community events.

Parent input on the use of Title I funds and suggestions concerning parental involvement activities also may be provided through the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Survey.

Building Capacity

CCPS 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, CCPS will implement a variety of family and community engagement initiatives.

Building Parent Capacity

CCPS will provide families with information about the overall Title I program and its requirements. The district works with its Title I schools to help families understand academic expectations for student learning and progress. Specific information on the State's challenging academic standards, and local and state assessments—including alternative assessments, will also be provided through district Title I Parent Academy workshops. The district also offers assistance to parents in understanding use of its online student information system and other digital resources. Notifications about these opportunities will be posted on the district website and shared through school messaging systems, newsletters, and social media postings.

The district website has a section, entitled The Parent Toolkit, that has resources and materials such as parent guides, study guides, practice assessments, and materials for at-home learning. Hard copies of these materials will be available at all Title I schools, and copies will be provided in a preferred language as needed.

Each Title I school notifies parents of the academic status of the school annually. The information is also posted in each Title I Parent Resource Room. The information is used to give parents a voice in defining and attaining the school's academic goals.

The CCPS Title I Parent Advisory Council, made up of parent representatives from each Title I school, advises the district and schools on all matters related to family engagement. Community leaders and business partners are also invited to serve on the council. The participation of all of our partners is encouraged through video conferencing and recording options to accommodate varying schedules.

CCPS coordinates and integrates 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 Head Start program, Georgia Pre-K, and other federal and state funded preschool programs in the district. The district will invite faculty and staff from those programs to attend planning meetings focused on family engagement activities. In addition, CCPS heavily promotes kindergarten registration using district and community media outlets.

In the spring, schools will host Kindergarten Round-up days, Middle and High School Transition Nights, and College and Career Fairs so parents may receive information to help prepare them and their children for the next life stage.

Building School Staff Capacity

The Office of Federal Programs will conduct monthly trainings during the school year for Title I Parent Liaisons and Title I Contacts to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. The information from the trainings will be used by the liaison and the building leadership to deliver professional development to the faculty and staff of Title I schools. The Office of Federal Programs will also provide technical support for building staff capacity in each Title I school.

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, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' preferred language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events and meetings. 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, local news media, and social media to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

In order to measure the effectiveness of the CCPS Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan and activities, an annual districtwide parent survey will be administered in the Spring of 2022.

Beginning in March, all Title I schools will send home a survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parental involvement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also use the Title I parent and stakeholder meetings to gather feedback on the content and effectiveness of the Title I Schoolwide or Targeted Assistance plan, the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and the CLIP.

CCPS will use the findings from the school and district meetings and survey results to design strategies to improve effective parent and family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district's Office of Federal Programs will communicate and collaborate with the Office of Student Services and Federal Programs, the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment to ensure full opportunities for parent and family participation. This includes parents with limited English proficiency, parents with limited literacy, parents with disabilities, parents who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, and parents of migratory children. CCPS will provide information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Families and Parents

Annual Parent Survey

March 1 – May 8, 2022

Title I Parent & Stakeholder Meetings

April 20, 2022

April 23, 2022

May 6, 2022

June 15, 2022

For Schools

Principal Technical Assistance

July 20–August 16, 2021

October 18, 2021

January 29, 2022

March 18, 2022

Title I Parent Liaison/Contact Training

First Thursday of every month

Title I Parent Academies

September 14, 2021

October 8, 2021

November 2, 2021

December 10, 2021

January 21, 2022

February 11, 2022

March 11, 2022

Adoption

CCPS Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan was reviewed and revised with the input of CCPS staff, parents, and community members. This Plan was adopted by the Clayton County Public School District on July 9, 2021 and will be in effect for the period of one year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before August 20, 2021. It will also be published in the Title I Parent Handbook and the CCPS website, and copies will be available in all Title I Parent Resource Rooms.