



# Coweta County School System

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## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2018-2019

Revised June 20, 2018

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### What Is Family Engagement?

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

- A. The parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- B. The 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.
- C. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.

## **About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Coweta County School System (CCSS) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations for parental engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe Coweta County School System'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 and parental 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 the Every Student Succeeds Act (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. Consistent with Section 1116, the ACSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

## **Opportunities for Meaningful 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 two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our students' academic achievement goals. An online survey will also be available.

### **Federal Programs/CNA Annual District Meeting – June 5, 2018**

The district will hold an annual meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, inviting all Title I parents to participate in the review and revision (as needed) of the Title I district plan, the parent/family plan, and how the 1% parent set-aside for schools should be spent. Parents hear the latest updates from Coweta County School System as well as review and provide input into the district parental engagement plan and the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan for the 2018-2019 school-year. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website. Parents who attend this meeting will fill out a stakeholder input form that is also available to those who cannot attend. It will be available on the district website.

### **School Improvement & Input Meetings – Summer & Fall 2017 and throughout the 2017-2018 school year**

During the summer and throughout the school year, principals will invite all parents to participate in roundtable discussions to give input on the school wide plan, the school's parental engagement plan as well as provide input on the school/parent compact, parent engagement budget and parental engagement program trainings. Each Title I school will notify parents in multiple ways (flyers, newsletters, marquee, the "one-call-now" system, text messages, emails, etc.) about the date and time of the meeting. A draft of the district and school parent and family engagement plan/policies will be

available on the school website, in the front office and in the school parent resource center for parents who cannot attend to review and make comments.

### **Annual Title I Parent Survey – March 19- April 13, 2018**

Parent input on the use of Title I funds to support parental and family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to the parental engagement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

### **Unable to attend these meetings?**

<http://www.cowetaschools.org/index.php/programs-a-projects/title-i>

**Please visit to review the meeting documents and minutes and leave your input.**

## **Jointly Developed**

During the Annual Title Programs/CNA District meeting on June 5, 2017, **ALL** parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the district parental involvement plan for the 2017-2018 school year. The district posted an announcement on the school and district websites as well as school newsletters and flyers to all parents in the district. During this meeting, parents also review and give input on the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP). Additionally, each Title I school used its parents and staff to review the district and school parent and family engagement plan before the end of the school year.

Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan is incorporated into the CLIP and submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding plan at any time by submitting written comments to their child's school, or the district Title I office.

The district parent and family engagement plan is posted on the district website, distributed during the annual Title I school-meetings, and made available in the school's parent resource centers and website.

## **Strengthening Our Schools**

This year, the district family engagement coordinator (FEC) will provide 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 district and the FEC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district FEC will hold quarterly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals and school FECs to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district will convene a summit in March for principals and FECs to 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**

The Title I office will reserve 1% from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY18 to carry out the parental engagement requirements listed in this plan and described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, CCSS will distribute 90% 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 parental engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment.

Each Title I school will survey parents to get input on how these family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the district and school-level. Additionally, a School Improvement Stakeholder Forum will be held in June for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used. Stakeholder input forms 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 engagement budget.

## **Building Capacity**

The CCSS will build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support partnership among the Title I schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following district-wide activities and programs.

### **Of Parents**

- CCSS will work through its Title I schools to provide assistance to parents in understanding state and district academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, as well as information regarding the Title I program.
- CCSS will also provide classes for parents to gain knowledge about the Georgia Standards of Excellence and achievement goals, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students including alternative forms of assessments. The dates and location for these classes will be posted on the school's website and shared through each Title I school's newsletter.
- CCSS will coordinate and integrate parental engagement strategies with other preschool readiness programs for children: Puddle Jumpers, Head Start, and Pre-K Programs. Puddle Jumpers is a "Mommy and Me" transition program offered at our Parent Resource Center for 2-3 year olds to prepare them for Pre-K. Title I & Pre-K collaborate with Head Start as part of the Pre-K collaborative that meets quarterly.
- CCSS will ensure that information and school reports are sent to parents in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable,

in a language parents understand by using a Google translation application and then getting someone who understands the language to review the document.

### **Of School Staff**

- CCSS will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners and on implementing programs to build ties between parents and schools. The district has created, with parent input, several PowerPoint presentations that are available to the schools for training: "Getting Parents on your side." School level PIC will also use GADOE webinars and powerpoint presentations for training.
- CCSS will maintain a district-wide Parent Advisory Board, with several members from each of the Title I schools that meet biannually (fall and spring) and at other times if more input is needed on Title I related activities.

## **Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation**

Each year, CCSS will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this 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.

Evaluation will be conducted during the week of March 19-April 13, 2018, with the involvement of parents, an annual survey/evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement plan in improving the academics of the students. Each year all parents are given an opportunity to review the survey and to make suggestions and or revisions. Surveys are distributed and collected via electronic and hard copies. The surveys are compiled at the school site. The survey may also be completed online via the school website.

The schools compile their surveys to determine strengths and weaknesses at the school. They forward their compiled information to the district office where a district compilation is completed and district needs are identified for the following year.

CCSS will use the findings from the school forums and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective 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 family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services 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	For Schools
<u>School Improvement &amp; Stakeholder Input Meetings</u> Summer & Fall 2017 and ongoing during 2017-2018 school year <b><i>(Principals will notify all parents of dates and times)</i></b>	<u>Title I Technical Assistance Training</u> July 18, 2017 Werz Central Office 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
<u>Annual Parent Survey</u> March 19-April 13, 2018	<u>FEC Meetings- Werz Central Office</u> July 18, 2017 November 8, 2017 March 28, 2018 9:00 a.m.
<u>District Stakeholders Input Meeting for Continuous Improvement</u> June 4, 2018 Werz Central Office 8:00 a.m. , 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.	

## **Adoption**

This district-wide 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 Federal Programs/CNA meeting held on June 5, 2017.

This Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement Plan was adopted on June 20, 2017 and will be in effect for the 2017-2018 academic school year. Title 1 schools will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before November 1, 2017.