



# WALTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"In Pursuit of Excellence"*

## Walton County School District

### District Family Engagement Plan

Revised April 25, 2016

#### MISSION

**Our mission is to ensure that all students learn.**

#### VISION

**Walton County Public Schools, in partnership with families and the community, empower all students to achieve their full potential in a safe and rigorous learning environment.**

1. The Walton County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its districtwide parental involvement plan.
  - A. Stakeholders including all parents will be given an opportunity to provide input by completing the Title I District Annual Survey. Results are shared for Comprehensive Implementation Plan development, district and local Title I School Parent Involvement plan revisions.
  - B. Communicate with parents via the district and Title I Schools' websites, distribute invitation flyers, Parental Engagement Newsletters, post meeting announcements in the local newspaper, Title I Parental Engagement Meetings, and display posters at all Title I schools/District office and through the Walton County Public Schools Virtual Academy in a timely manner.
  - C. Conduct the annual Parental Involvement planning meeting.
2. The Walton County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement.
  - A. Conduct the Annual Comprehensive Local Improvement Plan (CLIP) meeting, School Improvement Plan (SIP); Title I Schoolwide Plan (SWP) and Title I Target Assistance Program (TA), and Flexible Learning Plan (FLP), as required;
  - B. Provide parents an opportunity to share on-going feedback.
  - C. Provide interpreters/translators for parents during meetings as requested.
  - D. Share revised plans on district and school websites, in Parent Resource areas, and at all Title I Annual Meetings.
3. The Walton County School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental/family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- A. Central Office Support for Parental Engagement - Director of Federal Programs, School Improvement Coordinator, District Parent Involvement Coordinators, local Title I school liaisons, and Administrative Support.
  - B. Parent Resource Centers in each Title I School that support Parental/Family Engagement as funded by Schools.
  - C. District Parent Involvement Coordinator assigned to all Title I schools.
  - D. Title I Technical Support, Title I Orientation, Title I Regional Meetings, and Title I Work sessions.
  - E. Title I Updates shared at monthly Principals meetings.
  - F. Districtwide Title I Family Virtual Academy.
4. The **Walton County School District** will coordinate and integrate family engagement strategies in Part A with the following programs: Pre-K (Bright from the Start); Homeless, English Learners, Immigrant, Neglected, and Delinquent; and other district programs by:
- A. Collaborating with The Partnership for Families and Youth, Headstart, Preschool Exceptional Education Program (PEEP), State operated Pre-School Programs, Migrant Educational Program Consortium with Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC), and transition planning with all Title I Schools at each level.
  - B. Hosting parent meetings at Title I schools regarding coordination of services and transition from one level to another.
5. The **Walton County School District** will take the following actions to conduct, with the family, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this family engagement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its family engagement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the engagement of parents) its family engagement policies through the following methods:
- A. The district will continually obtain feedback from parents via the District wide survey on the district and local schools' website, paper copies, local media, and Title I Activity Evaluations.
  - B. Collaboration with the Department of Exceptional Educational Services (DEES), Parent Advisory Council (PAC), Special Education Parent Mentor, District Homeless Liaison, EL Program, Migrant Program Staff and Immigrant Program parents.
6. The **Walton County School District** will involve the parents served by 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 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- A. Stakeholders including all parents will be given an opportunity to provide input by completing the Title I District Annual Survey. Results are shared for Comprehensive Implementation Plan development, district and local Title I School Parent Involvement plan revisions.
  - B. Communicate with parents via the district and Title I Schools' websites, distribute invitation flyers, Parental Engagement Newsletters, post meeting announcements in the local newspaper, Title I Parental Engagement Meetings, and display posters at all Title I schools/District office and through the Walton County Public Schools Virtual Academy in a timely manner.
  - C. Conduct the annual Parental Involvement planning meeting.

7. The Walton County School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as:
- Math Resources, Parent Study Guides
  - Providing Good Study Habits
  - How to assist my child with homework
  - Educational websites and apps for families
  - Virtual Family Engagement Academy
  - GA Standards of Excellence (GSE) academic content standards and College and Career Readiness Index (CCRPI), GA Milestones Test Results
  - State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
  - Requirements of Title I and all mandatory notifications.
  - How to use technology to support your student.
  - How to monitor their child's progress, and
  - How to work with educators.

**The events to support this include the following:**

1. Title I Family Engagement Conferences (District and Regional).
  2. Consolidated Local Improvement Plan (CLIP) Annual Planning Meeting.
  3. Title I Parental Engagement Planning and Advisory Meetings
  4. Flexible Learning Program Meetings (FLP), as appropriate
  5. Parent/Family Workshops: Georgia Milestones Grade Level Meetings, Parent Portal, iPad Training, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Math and Reading Websites and Apps, Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM), Technology Association of GA (TAG), and Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Program for students in High School, EL Parent/Family Engagement.
  6. Development and implementation of Parent-School Compact.
- B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental engagement, by:
1. Providing Parent Workshops, Brochures, Parent Resource Centers, offering parent trainings on instructional resources and tools.
  2. English Learner Parent Workshops, School Council, CLIP Meeting, DEES Parent 2 Parent Workshops, GIFT – Get It Forever Together Workshops;
  3. Collaborative efforts with Parent Advisory Council, Faith in Serving Humanity (FISH), 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC), Communities in Schools (CIS), Faith Based Community, School Counselors, Homeless and Migrant Programs, EL Programs, Immigrant Parents/Families, Grandparents/Raising Grandchildren/Athens Council on Aging.

- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
1. Hosting with school administrators/principals, registrars, counselors, bookkeepers, and designated Title I School staff.
  2. Professional Learning for all Title I Schools.
  3. Title I Principals and Staff Liaison Title I Orientation and ongoing technical assistance.
  4. Title I Advisory Groups.
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate family engagement strategies under programs and activities with Pre- School Exceptional Education (PEEP), Head Start, Public Preschool, K-4 programs, and College and Career Readiness Programs, WCSD will conduct other activities, maintain parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:
1. Providing support from the District Title I Department and the local Title I school.
  2. Providing parent's access to Parent Resource Centers in eleven school centers, including designated computers for parental use.
  3. Providing assistance with coordination of transitional opportunities for parents and students.
- E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
1. Share family engagement communications in a variety of languages and media including community newspaper, flyers, websites, social media, School Messenger, posters, school marquees, and translation and/or interpretative services and through Walton County Public Schools Virtual Parent Academy.
- F. Provide other reasonable support for family engagement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.
1. Plan family engagement events as parents share ideas and as funds are available to support the ideas.

### ADOPTION

**This districtwide Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the majority of parents voting to accept during the March 19, 2015 Districtwide Title I Parental-Family Engagement Meeting.**

This plan was adopted by the Walton County School District on 4/25/2016 and will be in effect for the period of July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 30, 2016.