

**District:** Tupelo Public School District  
**Section:** L - Organizational Relations  
**Policy Code:** LAA - Title I Parental Involvement (Engagement)

## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY -

1. This policy establishes the Tupelo Public School District's (the "District's") expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the District will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.
2. The District will work with parents and families of Title I students to ensure that the District's goals relative to parental **and family engagement** in Title I programs and activities are developed and made available to all interested parties. The goals are as follows:
  - a. To involve parents **and families** in the joint development of a parent and family engagement plan.
  - b. To involve parents **and families** in the process of school review and improvement.
  - c. To provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent **and family engagement**.
  - d. To build the capacity for strong parent **and family engagement** in the schools.
  - e. To coordinate and integrate parent **and family engagement** strategies with other agencies.
  - f. To conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy.
  - g. To use the results of the annual evaluation to design strategies for school improvement, and if necessary, for revising the policies.
  - h. To help parents **and families** to understand the National Education Goals, state content and performance standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, how to monitor progress while participating in their children's education, and how to work with educators toward children's improved performance.
  - i. To provide materials and facilities to train parents, **families**, teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff to work with each other and work with parents **and families** as equal partners.
  - j. To educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff with assistance from parents **and families** on how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/**families** as equal partners.
  - k. To develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses and to encourage partnerships between elementary, middle, and secondary schools.
  - l. To conduct other activities, as appropriate and feasible, such as parent **and family** resource centers and opportunities for parents **and families** to learn about child development and rearing from birth of child, designed to help parents **and families** become full partners in the education of their children.
  - m. To ensure, to the extent possible, that information sent home is in an understandable language and form for parents **and families**.
  - n. To provide such other reasonable support for parent **and family engagement** activities as parents may request.
3. The District shall implement the following statutory requirements:
  - a. Put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the **engagement** of parents **and families** with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents **and family members** of participating children.



- b. Consistent with section 1118, work to ensure that the required parent **and family engagement** policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the **ESSA** and that each includes, as a component, a school-parent-student compact consistent with section 1118(b) of the **ESSA**.
4. The plan developed will follow guidelines under section 1112 of the **ESSA**.
- a. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent **and family engagement** requirements, to the extent practicable, the District will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents **and families** with (i) limited English proficiency, (ii) disabilities, and migratory children, to include providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the **ESSA** in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, to the extent practicable, in a language parents **and families** understand.
  - b. If the District plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the **ESSA**, is not satisfactory to the parents **and families** of participating children, the District will submit any comments with the plan when the District submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
  - c. The District will involve the parents **and families** of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent **and family engagement** is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools required for Title I Part A funds of \$500,000 or greater.
  - d. ~~The District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, 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 —~~
    - i. ~~that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;~~
    - ii. ~~that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;~~
    - iii. ~~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;~~
    - iv. ~~the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the **ESSA**.~~

This Parent **and Family Engagement** Policy has been reviewed and developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

LEGAL REF: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), **reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and replacing the No Child Left (NCLB) behind Act**, as amended.

Last Review Date: **November 2018**

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

1. The District will take the following actions to ~~involve~~ **engage** parents **and family members** in the joint development of its **Parental and Family Engagement involvement Plan**. ~~under section 1112 of the ESEA:~~
  - Annual Parent Title I Meetings to inform parents **and family members** of their participation in Title I, The Title I involvement requirements and their rights to be involved
  - ~~Need for the School Parent Student Compact~~ **The School Parent Student Compact shall jointly develop with and distribute to parent and families annually.**
  - Provide all parents **and family members** with copy of parent **and family engagement involvement** policy each year
  - Include survey with policy to obtain feedback from parents **and family members**
  - Meet with School Advisory team (SAT) to discuss survey results
  - Hold parent/**family** meeting to discuss and implement any policy changes

2. The District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of development of



the Schoolwide ~~Program/Targeted Assistance Program~~ Plan under Section 1114:

- ~~Assist Title I schools in meeting with School Advisory Teams to review draft of~~ Provide technical assistance to Title I Schools in developing their School Wide Plans. Develop a comprehensive plan developed during a year period with input from parents, community members, teachers, principals/administrators, school leaders, and school paraprofessionals. The School Wide Plan will be based on a comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school that takes into account information on the academic achievement of children. The strategies implemented by the school shall address the schools' needs. The School Wide Plan shall remain in effect for the duration of the school's participation. The plan shall and its implementation shall be regularly monitored and revised as necessary based on students' needs. The plan is available to the LEA, parents, and the public, and the information is in an understandable and uniform format. ~~Schoolwide/Targeted Assistance Program Plan.~~
- Hold meeting of District Parent ~~and Family Engagement~~ Committee to solicit comments and recommendations regarding District Parental Involvement Policy and ~~Schoolwide/Targeted Assistance Program Plans.~~
- Complete review process annually with District Parent Committee

3. The District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent ~~and family engagement involvement~~ activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Work with existing School Advisory Teams (SAT);
- Hold a meeting each semester of District Parent Committee, ~~with the following with District representation:~~ the Federal Programs Director, Special Education Coordinator, ~~two (2) Building Administrators, two (2) Counselors, school administrator or designee and two parents from each of the eight (8) four (4) title Title I schools to ensure the D~~istrict is providing necessary learning tools and educational programs in accordance with guidelines of ~~the ESSA, Title I Part A and "No Child Left Behind" legislation.~~
- Through input from SATs and school/district administrators, determine professional development needs and training to provide most effective teaching strategies to increase student achievement. Discussion to include local assessment data and results.
- Hold parent/~~family~~ meetings and parent conferences at different times during the day.
- Through District Parent Committee format, plan needed topics/training during Parent ~~and Family Engagement involvement~~ sessions/seminars

4. The District, to the extent feasible, will coordinate and integrate ~~family engagement with other federal, state, and local programs, including: parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:~~ Head Start ~~and other~~ private and faith-based pre-school programs, including:

- ~~Inviting invite~~ program members to participate in parent night meetings held during the school year.
- ~~Inviting invite~~ program members to participate in professional development activities.
- ~~Organizing~~ Organize and ~~participating~~ participate in joint transition-related training of school staff, Head Start staff and other early childhood development programs.
- ~~Coordinating to strengthen communication and enhance potential opportunities for parent and family engagement, including providing information and resources to support school orientation for families and students to assist in successful student transitions to school.~~

5. The District will take the following actions to conduct, ~~with the involvement of parents,~~ an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this ~~Parent and Family Engagement parental involvement~~ policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by ~~parents families in parent and family engagement parental involvement~~ activities (with particular attention to ~~parents families~~ who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The District will use the findings of the evaluation about its ~~parent and family engagement parental involvement~~ policy and activities to design strategies for more effective ~~parent and family engagement parental involvement~~ and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its ~~parent and family engagement parental involvement~~ policies:



- The District Planning Committee, working with existing School Advisory Teams, will ensure the District is providing the necessary learning tools and educational programs in accordance with guidelines of Title I Part A and **ESSA**. ~~“No Child Left Behind.”~~
- The Curriculum Development Team will facilitate the alignment of current curriculum with developed Title I programs. The catalyst for integration will be innovative technology to assist the needs of all students;
- Title I programs/services will be evaluated initially by the School Advisory Team (SAT) on meeting the needs of all students with concentrations in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Program/policy evaluation findings will be shared with parents via meetings, surveys, and other means of communication, including the District website, to work collectively to update and improve policies as needed.
- This policy will be reviewed annually, at a minimum, by the School Advisory Team and the District Parent Committee.

6. The District will build the schools' and parents'/**families'** capacity for strong **parent and family engagement** ~~parental involvement~~, in order to ensure effective **engagement** ~~involvement~~ of parents **and family members** and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, **family members**, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

6.1 The District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents/**families** of children served by the District or school, as appropriate in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- Provide assistance to Title I parents **and family members** as appropriate in understanding standards, state, and local assessments, the requirements of Part A, monitoring a child's programs and working with educators by conducting workshops at local school, enlistment of the Family Resource Center services/programs;
- Inform parents **and family** of the Mississippi Department of Education website and District website with its "Parent Resources" link to provide them information specific to academic standards, assessments, "**Every Student Succeeds**" (**ESSA**)~~“No Child Left Behind” (NCLB)~~, and Title I Part A.
- Parent/**family** meetings to discuss academic standards, types of assessments, **ESSA** ~~NCLB~~, Title I, after-school and extended-school year tutoring programs.
- Parent meetings and training seminars/workshops held at different times during the day to accommodate parents' needs.

6.2 The District will 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 involvement:

- ~~• Provide basic computer literacy classes to parents;~~
- Annually provide a Parent Information Packet that informs them that will help them become educational partners with their child's school;
- Provide parent involvement brochures/pamphlets to include, but not limited to topics, such as helping with homework, becoming reading buddies, parents as the first and most important teacher, involvement activities/strategies, etc.
- Provide extended day and extended year when funding is available

6.3 The 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/**family** programs and build ties between parents/**families** and schools, by:

- Conducting annual parent Title I meetings to inform parents of their participation in Title I, the Title I involvement requirements, and their rights to be involved;
- ~~• Hold additional meetings devoted specifically to addressing an understanding of academic standards, assessment, enrichment and remediation for parents to support their children~~
- Communicating to parents updates and changes to federal and state policies, assessments, and mandates of **ESSA**.~~NCLB~~.
- Jointly with parents, reviewing school-parent-student compacts outlining how parents, the entire school staff and students share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.



6.4 The District will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate **parent and family engagement** ~~parental involvement~~ programs and activities with Head Start and daycare programs that encourage and support parents/**families** to more fully participate in the education of their children by:

- Inviting program members to participate in parent night meetings held during the school year.
- Inviting program members to participate in professional development activities;
- Organizing and participating in joint transition-related training of school staff, Head Start staff and other early childhood development programs;
- Conducting meetings involving parents/**families** and programs participants to discuss development and assessment needs of individual children.

6.5. The District will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/**family** programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/**families** of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/**families** can understand:

- Mailings
- Random Phone call reminders
- Emails
- Postings on District website
- Newsletters

**Adopted Date:** 6/22/2010

**Approved/Revised Date:**