

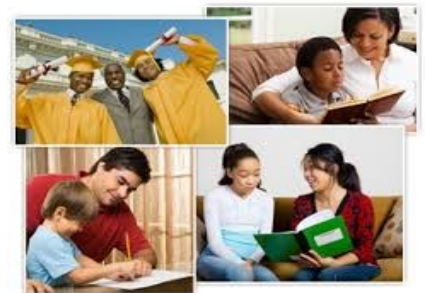
Parent and Family Engagement Plan

DRAFT—May 10, 2021

What is Family and Parent Engagement?

Henry County believes that parent involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

1. That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
2. That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
3. 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.
4. The carrying out of other activities, such as those prescribed in Section 1116 of the ESSA.
5. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.



About our District's Parent & Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Henry County Schools has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's 24 Title I schools. This plan will describe our 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 parental involvement 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 in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, Henry County Schools will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118 (b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

EXPECT *Exceptional*

Jointly Developed Plan

During the 2020-2021 school year, all Title I parents were invited to participate and provide feedback on the district's and school's FY22 Plans during their school's Spring Input Meeting. Parents were invited to all meetings through flyers, emails, text messages, and postings on each school's website as well as their social media platforms. During these meetings, parents received information about the district's Strategic Priorities as well as how the district allocated its Title I funds including the 1% Parent Involvement budget.

Parents who could not attend the meeting were encouraged to submit comments and feedback regarding the Parent & Family Engagement Plan, Strategic Priorities, and/or Budget at any time on via online feedback surveys or contacting their school's Parent Involvement Professional. All feedback received by June 1, 2021 on the district's Parent & Family Engagement Plan was considered. Upon final revision, this plan was incorporated into the CLIP and submitted to the state.

This plan is posted on our district's Title I page under Parent & Family Engagement. It will also be included in every Title I School's Parent & Family Engagement Guidebook.

District Support to Strengthen Our Schools

The district's Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will provide assistance and support to all 24 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's Parent Engagement Specialist to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' Parent Involvement Professionals and other appointed representatives to review family engagement plans and activities as well as provide guidance with the assistance of parents for Title I Schools to build staff capacity in Parent and Family Engagement.

Additionally, the district's Title I Office will host Annual Title I Compliance Training in July for all Title I Principals, Title I Teachers, Tutors and Title I Parent Involvement Professionals to review parent and family engagement compliance requirements and activities.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Henry County Schools will distributed 100% of the total reserved amount of Title I Parent & Family Engagement funds that it received for the 2020-2021 year directly to all of its Title I schools to support their local-level Parent & Family Engagement programs and activities.

The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate parental involvement budget that supports programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at school. Each Title I school will host a Parent Input Meeting for parents to provide suggestions how these parental involvement funds will be used at the school-level.

Parent feedback and meeting minutes from these meetings will be reviewed by the school to determine areas of need for the 2020-2021 school year and consider changes to the parental involvement budget.

Building Capacity—Henry County’s Mission IS Possible!

Henry County and the Title I Office will take the following measures in order to build the schools’ and parents’ capacity for strong parent and family engagement that will improve student academic achievement through the following districtwide activities and strategies:



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

- ★ Sharing vital information to parents of Title I schools on the Georgia Standards of Excellence, state and local academic assessments including the Georgia Milestones, as well as the required assessments for students including assessments for parents of children receiving ESOL services. The dates and locations for these workshops will be posted on the district’s Title I webpage as well as the websites of our Title I Schools. Parents will also receive workshop notifications via flyers, email, REMIND, and Infinite Campus.
- ★ The district’s Title I Parental Involvement webpage as well as each Title I school’s webpage will contain additional information such as parent guides and effective strategies that will assist parents in helping their children at home.
- ★ Copies of these materials will be made available by request for parents who may have limited Internet access as well as those in need of translated versions.
- ★ Collaborating with our local Pre-K, Early Reading & Literacy Programs, as well as participating Technical & Post-Secondary Schools to share school information that will help prepare parents and their child(ren) for transitions into elementary, middle, high, and beyond.
- ★ Ensuring that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is available to all parents in an understandable and uniform format, such as flyers, newsletters and calendars and posted on the district and/or school website. Parent notifications and resources will be sent home in parents’ native language, where applicable, and interpreters will be available at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district Web site will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize school telephone systems, school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL STAFF

- ★ Providing ongoing support to Parent Involvement Professionals (PIPs) and Title I Principals in the efforts to communicate and build partnerships with parents. The district’s Parent Engagement Specialist will also train appropriate school staff and faculty on creating a welcoming environment and improving school-parent communication.
- ★ Developing partnerships with community members and business leaders to serve as school and district level speakers in order to build staff capacity. The district will encourage collaboration between all stakeholders by posting meeting information on the district’s website and share with our 24 Title I Schools.

Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

All parents and families of students attending a Title I school are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described below. Input and suggestions from families are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year.

School & District Level Parent Input Meetings & Panel Discussions

Ongoing, throughout the year

Henry County encourages all parents of children attending a Title I School to participate in their school's Parent Input Meetings and other Panel Discussions. Each Title I School will send home information regarding the date and time of these meetings. Information will also be posted on each school's webpage as well as the district's Title I webpage.

Title I Parent & Family Engagement Input Opportunities

April 2022—May 2022

All Title I Families are invited to provide input via online surveys on their school's and the district's Title I documents including the Consolidated LEA School Improvement Plan, Title I Parent & Family Engagement Plans, School-Parent Compacts, and Parental Involvement Budgets. Notices regarding these input opportunities will be provided to parents in advance using multiple communication methods.

Parent & Family Engagement Annual Evaluation

In the Spring, Henry County Schools will evaluate the content and effectiveness of this Plan for Shared Student Success and the various parental involvement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual Parent & Community Stakeholder Input Meeting. Our goal is to work with parents and family members to identify barriers to greater parent participation in our Title I schools. We plan to identify specific needs that parents and family members have with supporting the achievement of their children and communicating to faculty and staff. These surveys and feedback forms will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents who are unable to attend.

In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also have a Spring Parent Input Meeting to discuss the school's Title I Programs and conduct their own school level evaluation. The results from district forums, Parent Input Meetings and Annual surveys will be used to improve the district and school level Parent & Family Engagement program.

ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESEA, the District's Title I Parent Engagement Specialist will communicate and collaborate with the Student Services office and Title III Coordinator to ensure full opportunities for participation including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand to parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and families of homeless and migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.



Informing and Empowering Parents

All families of children attending a Title I school are invited to attend Title I meetings and events at the school and district level to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals. The following is a list of sample workshops that may be offered at your child's school or on the district level. For the FY22 school year, meetings will be held in person as well as virtually.

- **Open House and Curriculum Nights**—discover and get connected with the various school and district level resources that are available to parents in Henry County Schools.
- **Principal Chats and "POP-In with the PIP"**—come talk to your school's principal or Parent Involvement Professional about specific topics or get information from a meeting that you missed.
- **Georgia Milestones Sessions**—families can hear from educators and each other about ways that they can prepare their child for the state assessments.
- **Literacy Workshops for Parents**—learn ways to get struggling or reluctant readers back on track.
- **Family Game Nights (Math & Science)**—participate in content area workshops to learn ways to encourage learning at home while still having fun.
- **"Bring Your Parent to School" Day (Middle Schools)**—come spend the day with your child to gain more insight on their school day and how you can extend their learning at home.
- **Calling all High School Parents!** - attend various forums on specific topics that will assist you in supporting your high school student and their post secondary plans.
- **District Family Connections Workshops and Live Parent Sessions**— Open to all HCS families to learn more about various topics to support the social, emotional and academic needs of their students such as *Tips for Remote Learning* and *Accessing the Infinite Campus Parent Portal*.

Adoption

This district level 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 Parent & Community Stakeholder Input Meeting as well as online comments received by parents via the district's website.

This plan as adopted by Henry County Schools on August 4, 2021 and will be in effect for the 2021-2022 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 30, 2021

Contact information

For additional information regarding this plan or Title I Parent and Family Engagement, please contact:

Sheryl Matthews, Ed.S.

Title I Parental Engagement Specialist

sheryl.matthews@henry.k12.ga.us