

**Bullock County Board of Education
Union Springs, Alabama**

2020-2021

**LEA COMPREHENSIVE PARENT
AND
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT DISTRICT POLICY**

Parent/Family



Dr. Christopher Blair, Superintendent

Dr. Michael King, Federal Programs Director

Mrs. Shirley Beachem, Parent Liaison

Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy (Sec. 1116 (2))

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(A))

- A. Describe how the Local Education will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).**

The Bullock County School District will host Parent Planning and Title I Annual Meetings during the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year to solicit ideas, to plan parenting activities and to inform parents how they can become involved in the Title I Program.

The LEA will provide opportunities for parents and families to

- Provide feedback at parent meetings*
- Serve on schools' improvement committees*
- Review/revise the plan throughout the school year.*
- Participate on the LEA Parent District Advisory Council (PDAC). The PDAC will provide additional input on the plan.*
- Discuss the plan during PTO meetings*
- Attend monthly school board meetings.*

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(B))

- B. Describe how the Local Education Agency will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education**

- Federal Programs Director, Parent Liaison, parents and stakeholders will participate in meetings to provide assistance in developing schools/district eProve Plan*
- Federal Programs Director will coordinate activities and provide guidance for effective utilization of federal funds.*
- Federal Programs Director/Superintendent Designee and/or Title I Parent Liaison will meet monthly and at other times as deemed necessary with principals to provide technical assistance for parent engagement activities.*
- Parent Liaison will visit all schools to offer assistance and support of parent engagement activities.*
- Federal Programs Director will allocate professional development funds to Title I schools to assist schools in attending local, state, and regional parent engagement conferences and workshops*
- Supplies will be purchase to assist parents at home as well as provide these materials for on site training sessions.*
- Parent Liaison will visit schools to assist with planning and conducting parenting workshops at the schools site.*
- Parent Liaison will help schools to organize Math and Family, Literacy/Grade level Engagement Nights as well as grade level Data Nights.*

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(C))

- C. Describe how the Local Education Agency will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies 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.**

The Bullock County School District will encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's education at school as well as home by conducting parents and stakeholders' surveys to form an understanding of the needs and strengths and/or weaknesses of parents to assist their child academically. Areas of concerns will be addressed through oral discussions, workshops, trainings, and parent conferences.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(D))

- D. Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—**
- (i) barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (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 Bullock County School District will host workshops and trainings at various times and days of the week to accommodate all parents and families. Workshop materials and resources will be provided free to parents. Parents will be given the opportunity to discuss ways to improve parent and family engagement through oral discussions and surveys. GED classes are available to assist parents in receiving their high school diploma. The district translator will be available to assist Spanish-speaking families during workshops, trainings, and parent conferences. The BCSD will offer assistance upon request (braille, sign language, etc.). Parent Meetings and trainings will be offered at local community centers, church and recreational centers. Some virtual meetings and trainings will be offered to parents and community members.

- (ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers**

The BCSD will provide opportunities for parents to

- Participate in the development of the school's School-Parent Compact and Parent Engagement Policy*
- Serve on school committees*
- Attend parent workshops and trainings*
- Attend parent conferences*
- Contact administrators/teachers via emails, phone calls, text messages, letters*
- Schedule parent/teacher conferences when needed*
- Attend special programs or events*
- Review teachers' lesson plans, child's grades, attendance and discipline in Chalkable*
- Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer in their child's school*

(iii) **strategies to support successful school and family interactions**

The BCSD will provide schools and classrooms that are warm and inviting to help families feel welcome. The Parent Center is available to assist parents with materials and resources needed to assist their child at home. BCSD will create opportunities for conversations and interactions with families to maintain communication on how the families and schools can unite to support their child's education. School administrators and teachers will keep parents abreast on the progress on their child and provide ways parents can enhance their child learning. Parent conferences will be held at least four times during the school. Parents may call and request parent/teacher/administrator conferences when he/she deems necessary.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(E)

- E. Describe how the Local Education Agency will use the findings of such evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116(2)(D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.**

The BCSD will disseminate parent surveys to parents to determine the effectiveness of the Parental Engagement Program. If additional strategies and activities are needed, the BCSD will collaborate with schools' personnel, parents and members of the PDAC/PSAC to create evidence-based strategies for a more effective parent engagement policy. Parents will provide input about the plan on a regular basis and revisions will be made.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(F)

- F. Describe how the Local Education Agency will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.**

- BCSD will organize a Parent School Advisory Council (PSAC), which shall be composed of principals, an appropriately balanced number of teachers, parents, students and community citizens.*
- The PSAC will help to serve as the decision-making body of the each school.*
- The PSAC will meet quarterly to develop, review and offer suggestions for improvement of the eProve Plan.*
- The PSAC will review data, discuss strategies implemented, and evaluate progress made by students on state and local assessments.*

In order to build capacity for Parent and Family Engagement, the Local Education Agency will ensure effective involvement of parents and will support a partnership among the schools involved, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the LEA shall:

- G. Describe how it will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.**

BCSD will host workshops and training for parents and families on the following topics

- *Schoology*
- *Schools' Open House*
- *Chalkable Training (Parent Portal)*
- *Testing Taking Strategies Workshop*
- *Understanding Your Child's Test Results*
- *Preparing your Child for College*
- *Literacy Nights*
- *Special Education and 540 Requirements and Updates*
- *Schools' P.T.O. Meetings*
- *Edgenuity Meetings*

- H. Describe how it will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.**

The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and trainings 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 offering the following:

- *Schoology*
- *Adult Basic Education Programs*
- *Chalkable Trainings (Parent Portal)*
- *Anti-Bullying Workshops*
- *Make and Take Workshops*
- *Becoming Financially Secure*
- *Special Education/504 Requirements and Updates*
- *Data Night*
- *Computer Training*
- *Pamphlets on Online Safety, Attendance, Bullying, Cyber-bullying, College and Career Ready, Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten, Middle School, High School and College.*
- *Family Literacy Nights Training*

- I. Describe how it will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.**

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.

- *Parent Liaison will provide materials and training for teachers and administrators to help them work better with their parents.*
- *LEA will provide professional development on communicating effectively with parents*
- *LEA will provide mentors for novice teachers.*
- *Links to helpful resources to assist teachers and administrators will be made available.*

- J. Describe how it will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.**

The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- *Providing parent training sessions*
- *Providing "Getting Ready for next school year transitional packages*
- *Distributing Kindergarten Registration Packages*
- *Providing transitional activities for Head Start and Pre-K students entering kindergarten.*
- *Providing summer enrichment activity packages for elementary students in Reading/Math*

- K. Describe how it will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.**

The BCSD will take the necessary steps to ensure that communications for all parents are in a format and to the extent practicable; in a language parents can understand. Information to parents will be translated to ensure all parents have the opportunity to participate in the education of their child. The district's translator will assist Spanish speaking parents and families at workshops, conferences and parent meetings, Teachers will use translating sites and apps to assist students with classwork and also with meeting with parents. School forms and documents will be translated.

L. Describe how it will ensure provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

Parents and Families will be given the opportunity to request additional support by communicating to their child's teacher, principal, or directly contact the Federal Program Department. PDAC members may provide advice on all matters related to parent engagement. The PDAC is always opened to accept new members. Teachers may also request additional parental support/resources when students are struggling in class. Parents will periodically receive surveys to complete to determine exactly what areas they desire support.

M. Describe how the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.

BCSD will solicit parents, family members, and/or stakeholders to be involved in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of the training by verbally making a request for resources/services. Parents will implore their knowledge about their needs to better assist their child's learning and behavior styles. Surveys will be disseminated after each training session or workshop to solicit parents' opinion of the workshop and ways to improve.

N. Describe how the LEA may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.

BCSD will use Title I funding to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental engagement activities to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions. The district will also solicit funds from local business leaders and vendor to help sponsor parenting activities and trainings.

O. Describe how the LEA may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

BCSD will use Title I funding to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental engagement activities, transportation and child care cost to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

P. Describe how the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

The BCSD will use the "Parent Train the Trainer Model", where parents learn a skill and simultaneously learn how to teach other parents that skills. The PDAC members, teachers, administrators, and central office staff will be asked to recruit additional parents to join the council.

- Q. Describe how the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.**

In an effort to build upon our current parental support and engagement, the BCSD offers workshops, trainings and meetings at various times, days and locations. BCSD will work toward holding meetings/trainings in facilities in the community, such as recreation centers, churches, town halls, parks, and businesses. Virtual trainings and meetings will allow more parents to participate in the comfort of their own home.

- R. Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.**

Each school completes an Alabama Continuum Improvement Plan (ACIP), this plan contains a parental involvement section that is continually visited and updated. This section is sent home for parents to view and to modify if needed. We partner with schools within the district to provide parent workshops. These workshops may be held at the schools, a local church, community centers and/or park. We have partnered with Bullock County Department of Human Resources.

- S. Describe how the LEA may establish a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.**

The BCSD has established a District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), which is comprised of principals, teachers, parents, students and community citizens. The DPAC will serve as the decision-making body of the each school. The PSAC will meet quarterly to develop, review and offer suggestions for improvement of the schools and district plans. The PSAC will review data, discuss strategies implemented, and evaluate progress made by students on state assessments.

- T. Describe how the LEA may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.**

Community-based organizations are included in the daily operations of the school and are encouraged to participate in parental activities. We invite community-based agencies and organizations to the schools and parent meetings to discuss how they can support the district. Representatives are given the opportunity to discuss with parents and students services they offer to the community.


Sec. 1116(f)

- U. Describe how the Local Education Agency, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, parent and family members of**

homeless children, and parents and family members of immigrant children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

- *The BCSD's forms, newsletters and schedules are sent out to parents in their primary language.*
- *Communicate information through emails, text messages, Remind, school marquees, local newspaper, Facebook and television station.*
- *School messenger phone system is used to notify parents of meetings, upcoming events school emergencies and announcements. Messages are delivered in parents' primary language.*
- *Each facility in the school district is handicap accessible.*
- *All parents are given the opportunity to participate in all services and programs provided by the school district.*
- *Host meetings and trainings at the churches they attend.*

This LEA Parent and 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 agenda and signatures on sign-in sheets. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 11, 2020.



PLAN APPROVED BY (Person or Entity)



DATE OF APPROVAL