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December 5, 2016

Ms. Christi Boortz
Florida School for the Deaf and Blind
207 N. San Marco Blvd
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear Ms. Boortz:

We are pleased to inform you that the Bureau of Federal Educational Programs has received Florida School for the Deaf and Blind's 2016-17 LEA Parental Involvement Policy.

Please be reminded that the LEA Parent Involvement Policy/Plan must meet all of the requirements outlined in Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The LEA is also required to share the contents of the parental involvement policy with parents of children participating in the Title I program. The information must be provided in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Tony Graham via email at Tony.Graham@fldoe.org, or by telephone at 850-245-9893.

Sincerely,

Sonya G. Morris

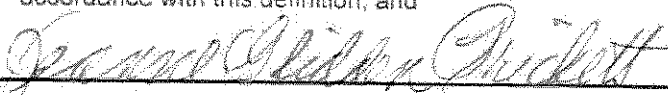
SGM/tog

SCHOOL FOR DEAF/BLIND Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Plan

I, Dr. Jeanne Prickett, do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of assurances for these waivers. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.

Assurances

- The LEA will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children;
- Consistent with Section 1118, the LEA will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA;
- The LEA will incorporate this LEA-wide parental involvement policy into its LEA Plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA;
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements to the extent practicable, the LEA and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand [Section 1118(f)];
- If the LEA Plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the LEA will submit any parent comments with the plan when the LEA submits the plan to FDOE;
- The LEA will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools, after equitable provisions have been provided to participating private schools;
- The LEA will be governed by the statutory definition of "parental involvement" defined in Section 9101 (32), and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition; and



11.10.2016

Signature of Superintendent or Designee

(Note: If this certification is signed by a designee, then the letter authorizing this person to sign in place of the Superintendent must be included with this request.)

Date Signed



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2016-2017 LEA Parental Involvement Adoption Page

LEA or District Name: **FSDB**

This policy was adopted by the LEA on 9/28/16 and will be in effect for the period of one year through 9/28/17. The LEA will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before 10/31/16.

Jeanne G. Priddy 9.30.16
(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative) (Date)

Provide evidence that the LEA PIP was developed with the input of parents and based on the evaluation of the previous year PIP.

SCHOOL FOR DEAF/BLIND Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Plan

I, Dr. Jeanne Prickett, do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of assurances for these waivers. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.

Assurances

- The LEA will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children;
- Consistent with Section 1118, the LEA will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA;
- The LEA will incorporate this LEA-wide parental involvement policy into its LEA Plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA;
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements to the extent practicable, the LEA and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand [Section 1118(f)];
- If the LEA Plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the LEA will submit any parent comments with the plan when the LEA submits the plan to FDOE;
- The LEA will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools, after equitable provisions have been provided to participating private schools;
- The LEA will be governed by the statutory definition of "parental involvement" defined in Section 9101 (32), and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition; and

Signature of Superintendent or Designee

(Note: If this certification is signed by a designee, then the letter authorizing this person to sign in place of the Superintendent must be included with this request.)

Date Signed

Mission Statement

Parental Involvement Mission Statement (Optional)

Response: Family involvement is a powerful influence on a child's achievement in school. When families work together with schools to support learning, children are inclined to succeed academically and throughout life. Parents/legal guardians are encouraged to participate as informed partners with school personnel in implementing the Title I school programs in an effort to encourage life long learning and improve student academic achievement. FSDB strives to provide families and staff with capacity

building opportunities to increase our abilities to support our students academic and personal growth.

Involvement of Parents

Describe the actions the LEA will take to involve parents in the following required policies/plans:

- LEA-wide parental involvement policy (PIP)[Section 1118(a)(2)];
- LEA plan [Sections 1112 (c)(H), 1112(d)(1)]; -and
- How the funds reserved for parental involvement will be spent [Section 1118(a)(2)].

Response: The members of the representative parent body, called the Title I Parent Advisory Team, are selected by the Principal or Assistant Principal of each Title I school. Each Title I school has three representatives. Since there are four Title I schools presently, the Title I Parent Advisory Team has at least 12 members. Other Title I school parents are welcome to attend the meetings as well.

Notification of meetings will be posted on the school website with clear language stating that the meetings are open to Title 1 parents. Minutes are taken at all Title I Parent Advisory Team meetings. When possible, meetings will be live streamed to allow families to participate without traveling to campus.

The LEA Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) will be developed with parent, teacher, and administrative consultation provided by the Title I Parent Advisory Team. Title I Grant Coordinator and Title I Assistant will work in collaboration with the Parent Services Department to coordinate and execute PIP components.

The LEA PIP will be evaluated at the end of each school year. The new plan will be developed for the following school year based on this feedback, with the Title I Parent Advisory Team providing meaningful and valid parent consultation.

The School Improvement Plans (SIP) for each school are developed through extensive consultation with the LEA-wide School Advisory Council (SAC); portions pertaining to Title I are reviewed by the Title I Parent Advisory Team during the school year before the final plan is submitted to FLDOE.

Title I school plan evaluations are compiled through the use of a feedback form. The forms are collected and reviewed by the Title I Assistant Grant Coordinator. The Assistant Grant Coordinator relays parent feedback to the campus administrators during Title I administrative team meetings and/or email communication.

Plans for how the 1% required set aside for parent involvement activities is spent will be determined during the spring meeting of the Title I Parent Advisory Team.

Technical Assistance

Describe the actions the LEA will take to provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities which build the capacity of parents to improve the academic achievement of their child and overall school performance [Section 1118(a)(2)(B and C) and 1118(e)(1-14)]. Include a description of the process the LEA will use to review the school-level PIP to ensure compliance with all requirements of Section 1118 [34 CFR 200.30(e)]. Include information on how the LEA will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request [Section 1118(e)(14)].

Response: -The Title I Parent Advisory Team will meet 4-5 times each school year. This parent team will provide valuable input on effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement.

-The Title I Parent Advisory Team (TIPAT) develops and evaluates the LEA PIP as a whole group. Additional breakout sessions, during certain TIPAT meetings, enables members from each Title I school to develop and evaluate their own Title I school's PIP (Parent Involvement Plan).

-FSDB Parent Services Department will continue to provide parent activities, classes, and workshops; such as parent instruction in ASL (American Sign Language), Braille, Assistive Technology and Orientation and Mobility (O&M). These classes facilitate improved communication between parents and their children. They provide parents with the skills necessary to parent at a greater capacity and with the knowledge needed to complete tasks such as assisting their child with homework. When possible, meetings will be live streamed to allow families to participate without traveling to the campus.

-Typically, a large portion of the parent involvement set aside goes toward reimbursement of travel costs, which enables FSDB parents/legal guardians to attend capacity building meetings. Each year, parents on the Title I Parent Advisory Team request that this activity is continued in the next school year. This is one of the most valued means of support for parent involvement activities in the Title I budget.

Coordination and Integration

Describe how the LEA will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies from Part A of Title I with other federal programs (including but not limited to Head Start, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPOY), Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten, Title I, Part C, Title I, Part D of Title I, Title III, and Title IV, Part A) [Sections 1118 (a)(2)(D) and 1118(e)(4)].

count	Program	Coordination
1	FSDB Parent Services Dept.	FSDB Parent Services receives federal funding for their programs and resources through the IDEA part B grant in addition to Title I part A. The Parent Liaison will plan grant purchases carefully in order to best meet LEA-wide parent needs.
2	Parent Liaison	The Parent Liaison working in FSDB Parent Services will continue to have her salary funded through IDEA part B.
3	Parent Infant Program	The Parent Infant Program at the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB) offers early intervention, family-centered services for children ages 0-5 who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or blind/visually impaired. Children with vision loss are served through the state funded Division of Blind Services Blind Babies Program and

		children with hearing loss through school funds and private sponsors. Children served through this program may qualify to attend FSDB at age 3.
4	Private Business Sponsors	Private business sponsorships (coordinated by the Advancement Office staff) have contributed extensively and qualitatively to FSDB programs and will likely do so in the future.
5	Early Steps	Early Steps is Florida's early intervention system that offers services to eligible infants and toddlers (birth to thirty-six months) with significant delays or a condition likely to result in a developmental delay. This program is funded through IDEA part C. Children with vision or hearing loss, who are enrolled in Early Steps, may qualify to attend FSDB after they turn 3. FSDB partners with the Early Steps program by providing them access to facilities for meetings and by working collaboratively to support prospective FSDB families.

Annual Evaluation

Describe the actions the LEA will take to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the Title I, Part A schools [Section 1118(a)(2)(E)].

Response: The content and effectiveness of the LEA Parent Involvement Policy in improving the quality of Title I Part A schools will be reviewed and discussed during the year-end meeting of the Title I Parent Advisory Team. Parent suggestions, when feasible, will be incorporated into the LEA Parent Involvement Policy for the following school year.

Parents record their programmatic suggestions or ideas for program change on feedback forms called "LEA Parent Involvement Plan, Title I Program Evaluation"; the ideas are compiled and added to the plan, if feasible.

FSDB Parent Services staff manages many of the activities contained in the Parent Involvement Plan (PIP); such as preparing the travel reimbursements, and they confer often with Title I Administrators to ensure effective coordination of services.

Building Capacity

If the LEA plans to implement LEA-wide activities, describe the actions the LEA will take to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement [Sections 1118(a)(2)(C), 1118(e)(1-14)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Title I Parent Advisory Team formation	Title I Coordinator	Parent Involvement Factor	New team formed in August of each year	Parent attendance and involvement in Title 1 events and affairs
2	Signed Family-School Compacts	Title I Assistant	Parent Involvement Factor	Compacts formulated & signed at the start of the school year or	Return of Signed Compacts, clarified responsibilities for student learning and achievement

				at IEP meetings during the year	
3	Parent Travel Reimbursements	Misty Porter, Parent Liaison	Parent Involvement & Skills Building	Ongoing through the School Year	Completed Parent Travel Reimbursements
4	Parent Outreach (Parent/Student Handbooks, Newsletters, and Calendars)	FSDB Communications & Public Relations Department and Parent Services Dept.	Parent knowledge & skills impacts their child's (student) achievement	Ongoing through the School Year	Parent knowledge of school contacts and participation in capacity building events
5	Parent Classes: American Sign Language, Braille, Assistive Technology, Orientation and Mobility Classes, Expanded Core Curriculum Classes, and other Parent Capacity Building Classes	FSDB Parent Services Department	Parent knowledge & skills impact their child's school performance.	Ongoing throughout the School Year	Improved communication between parents and their children and increased parent capacity to complete tasks such as assisting their child with homework
6	Family Friendly Schools: A welcoming and engaging environment with programs to promote strong relationships between parents and FSDB staff.	School wide	Parent Involvement Enhanced	Ongoing through the School Year	Parent report, participation level in campus events, school enrollment numbers. Student enrollment numbers, Skyward and teacher website usage. Sign in sheets and participant feedback.
7	Parent Engagement Workshops	FSDB Parent Services Department	Parent Capacity Building	4-5 Workshops through the School Year	Increase parent skill and capacity to support student learning and achievement capacity to support student learning and achievement

Staff Training

Describe the professional development activities the LEA will provide, with the assistance of the schools and parents, to educate staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; the implementation and coordination of parent programs; and how to build ties between parents and the school [Section 1118 (e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	FSDB website and social media quality Review	FSDB Parent Services Department and Communications & Public Relations Department	Ensuring that FSDB websites are comprehensible, interesting, and up to date for FSDB Families. School websites facilitate ongoing communication and awareness of academic projects, homework assignments, etc.	Ongoing through the School Year	Parent report of access to FSDB staff and effectiveness and ease of use of new website.

2	Same Goal Different Role	FSDB Parent Services	Educating FSDB staff on the value of parent involvement and parents on working with the team as a partner will increase positive school/home communication practices.	Ongoing through the School Year	Staff and Parent report and usage of social media sites.
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Communication and Accessibility

Describe how the LEA will provide full opportunities for participation in parental involvement activities for all parents (including parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children). Include how the LEA plans to share information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports, and other activities in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practical, in a language parents can understand [Section 1118(e)(5) and 1118(f)].

Response: The primary barrier to full participation in parent involvement activities remains constant--parents live all around the state of Florida. They cannot readily attend campus meetings, events, and training due to the distance. FSDB seeks to overcome this barrier by providing funds for travel reimbursement for educational events/training. (Athletic events, or other events that do not build capacity but are recreational do not receive reimbursement.)

The FSDB school website and social media websites provide FSDB families with continuous access to information about opportunities for participation in parental involvement activities. Additionally, the SkyAlert system is utilized in conjunction with the SkyWard system to provide parents with current and relevant information.

Written translations of school communication will be provided to parents, with limited English proficiency, in their native language. Large-print and Braille versions of written communication are also provided to any parents, as needed, courtesy of the Braille Production Center.

In addition to translations of written materials, sign language interpreters and/or Spanish translators will attend Title I Part A 'Parent Advisory Team' meetings (as well as other parent meetings) and workshops or training to provide these services as needed.

Closed captioning, sign language, and Spanish interpreting is also provided for parent meetings when broadcast live on the web.

The Title I Assistant sets a specific goal of parent attendance at over 58% each Title I Parent Advisory Team meeting (at least 7/12 parent representatives attend). In order to achieve this goal, funds assist parents with travel costs, food is provided at meetings, and the meetings times and days are varied to work around parent schedules.

Discretionary Activities

The LEA parental involvement policy may include additional discretionary activities that the LEA, in

consultation with the parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement [Section 1118(e)]. Check here if the LEA does not plan to implement the discretionary parental involvement activities. Check all activities the LEA plans to implement:

count	Activity	Description of Implementation Strategy	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline
1	Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions [Section 1118(e)(8)];	Travel Expense Reimbursement	Parent Liaison, FSDB Parent Services	Increased Parent Involvement	Ongoing through the School Year
2	Maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school [Section 1118(e)(10)];	TIPA Parent Team Meetings, Offering access to Parent Classes, trainings, workshops, and information via livestream, vimeo, or other electronic formats to allow for participation when parents are unable to travel	Title I Assistant	Increased Parent Participation	4 - 5 TIPA Parent Team meetings during school year
3	Establishing a LEA-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs [Section 1118(e)(12)]; and	TIPAT (Title I Parent Advisory Team)	Title I Assistant & Title I Assistant Principals	Involving and Training Parents	Meetings held quarterly during the school year

Upload Evidence of Input from Parents

Upload evidence of parent input in the development of the plan.

Uploaded Document

Evaluation of the previous year's Parental Involvement Plan

Building Capacity Summary

Provide a summary of the activities offered to help build the capacity of parents improve their children academic achievement [Section 1118(e)(1-2)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
1	Parent Classes, Workshops, and Trainings	51	538	Increased parent involvement, capacity to support students, and knowledge of resources. Improved parent/ teacher relationships.
2	Parent Outreach (Registration Day, New Parent Packets)	3	1572	Families visiting FSDB during Registration Day will begin building rapport with teachers and staff and will feel comfortable on campus, increasing communication between school and home. New FSDB families will feel welcomed and will be educated on how to receive support and information from the school.
3	Parent Connections Newsletter	4	2400	Increased parental knowledge of upcoming events and school news will increase participation in capacity building events.
4	Parent Travel Reimbursement	66	1	FSDB families will be able to attend meetings regardless of travel expenses and will increase their capacity to assist students in academic tasks.
5	Signed Family-School Compacts	1	8	All parties entering into a partnership stimulates and reinforces a commitment to student learning, at school and at home.
6	Title I Parent Advisory Team Meetings	5	38	Topics addressed during parent meetings assist parents to understand their child's academic needs, and support them in the home environment.

Staff Training Summary

Provide a summary of the professional development activities provided by the LEA to educate staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; the implementation and coordination of parent programs; and how to build ties between parents and the school [Section 1118(e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
1	Family Friendly Schools	2	155	Improved parent-staff relationships positively impact student achievement
2	School Website redesign and reviews. Skyward Tutorials for Families	1	3	Increased Family Friendly presentation of information to parents. Increased parent-staff communication. Tutorials will increase parent knowledge of and access to student grades.
3	Christel Reaves Training	1	20	Classroom to Home, Math and Science Explorations."Teacher will learn creative ways to involve Deaf and Blind students in math and science through hands-on activities. Staff will be knowledgeable of technology that supports learning at home, as well as problem-solving in the classroom

Private School Summary

Provide a summary of the parental involvement activities provided for private schools implementing a Title I, Part A program [Section 1120(a)(1)]

Not Applicable

Barriers

Describe the barriers which hindered participation by parents in parental involvement activities during the previous school year. Include the steps the LEA will take during the upcoming school year to overcome the barriers and design more effective parental involvement policies (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) [Section 1118(a)(2)(E)].

count	Barrier (Including the Specific Subgroup)	Steps the School will Take to Overcome
1	LEP Barrier: Language	All written materials sent home to parents will be translated into their native language; campus meetings will have a language translator if parents speaking another language are present.
2	Low Income/Disadvantaged	Parent travel reimbursements will allow parents to come to campus capacity-building events since they will receive financial reimbursement.
3	Distance	Distance barrier is likewise overcome through the travel reimbursements in cell #2; additionally, meetings will be live-streamed when possible.
4	Blind/Low Vision Parents	All written materials will be transcribed into Braille for blind parents; the Braille Transcription Center will also put materials into large font/binding for low vision parents.
5	Deaf/Hard of Hearing Parents	FSDB will provide an ASL interpreter during meetings if Deaf/HoH parents will be present.

Best Practices (Optional)

Describe the parental involvement activity/strategy implemented during the previous school year that the LEA considers the most effective. This information may be shared with other LEAs as a best practice. (Optional)

count	Content/Purpose	Description of the Activity
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