

Iberville Parish School District

Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan

Drafted (May 2018); Revised (June 2020)

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Iberville Parish School District receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education.

Iberville Parish School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

- 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 school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the state Department of Education.
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of ESSA:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents/families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents/families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents/families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) Parents/families 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
- (D) Parents/families are familiar with virtual platforms and/or learning packets used in the case of school closures**
- (E) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The Iberville Parish School District will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developed LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

The district and school policies and the School Improvement/Schoolwide Plans are reviewed each school year and revised annually. Sources used in the development of these policies and plans include individual school meetings, annual parent survey results, parent meetings and parent-teacher conferences. This policy and all school

policies are posted on our system and school websites where they are available for parent comments and suggestions. This policy is a working document subject to review and revision.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Iberville Parish School District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic 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:

The Supervisor of Federal Programs and Designated Grants will provide guidance and support on appropriate use of parent involvement funds and review school Parental Involvement Policies, School Improvement/Schoolwide Plans, and School-Parent Compacts to ensure compliance.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Iberville Parish School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in 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 evaluation will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

Parents are surveyed annually to determine whether parent engagement needs are being met effectively and appropriately through the implementation of the parent and

family engagement programs. Parents are given the opportunity to complete the survey via paper copy or electronically. The results of these surveys are used to develop strategies for school improvement and to revise the district and school Parent and Family Engagement Policies. These results are also used in planning future parent workshops and meetings. Areas evaluated include academics and school leadership, parental involvement, Title I, school environment, and the school Parent and Family Engagement Program.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The Iberville Parish School District will involve the parents and family members 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 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

The Title I Parent Involvement Program allocates funds for Parent involvement based on the guidelines as stipulated by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)-not less than one percent of the LEA Title I allocation for parent involvement. Federal budgets, including Title I, are available to parents upon request.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The Iberville Parish School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs: Special Education, Early Intervention Program, English Speakers of Other Languages, Pre-K, Head Start, and other programs as appropriate that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

Continuously communicating with parents via multiple media, including:

- District and school websites
- Local media and community/business partners
- Parent-teacher conferences, parent workshops, Parent Resource Center
- Newsletters, emails, signs, posters, and text messaging
- Telephone
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- JCampus callout

- **Various virtual platforms such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, etc.**

All communications are in an easy-to-understand language. Translations for other languages may be provided upon request, and to the extent practicable.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The Iberville Parish School District will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State academic standards
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators
- **How to navigate virtual platforms in the event of school closures due to COVID-19**

All Title I schools will host parent/meeting/workshops/classes that will be held at different times during the day to accommodate family needs. Parents will be kept informed via written correspondence, phone messenger, take home folders, in planners, **virtually**, etc. In addition, information will be posted on websites and social media.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The Iberville Parish School District will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents, in how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build its ties between parents and schools by:

- Sending home newsletters
- Sending home graded papers
- Making home visits

- Scheduling parent/teacher conferences
- Making phone calls; sending home homework, and notes in agendas
- Encouraging parents to serve as volunteers/tutors
- Attending conferences, seminars, workshops, and meetings with parents
- Serving together on school committees
- **Reviewing and strengthening parent communications**
- **Identifying additional virtual supports based on student needs**
- **Considering regular family surveys and offering parent webinars and “PD” sessions to learn how to navigate virtual platform.**

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

- ❑ Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training
- ❑ Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- ❑ Maximize parental involvement and participation in their children’s education, 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
- ❑ Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement
- ❑ Establishing a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs

Iberville Parish Schools strive to include all parents in activities, and to the extent practicable, accommodate parents with disabilities, language barriers, and other special needs. Parent meetings/trainings are held at various times to meet the needs of all parents.

Additional opportunities for parents to be involved include:

- Volunteering in the school and/or classroom
- School leadership teams such as: PTO, School Councils, and School Leadership Teams

ADOPTION

This LEA's Parental 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 this document and the sign-in sheet.

This policy was adopted by the Iberville Parish School District on _____ and will be in effect for the period of 2018-2019 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1, 2018 by placing it on the school district website.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)