

# Washington Parish School System Parent and Family Engagement Plan

## **Part I: General Expectations**

The Washington Parish School System agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

The Washington Parish School System will:

- Collaborate with parents, teachers, students, administrators, and other educational sources to establish programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all Title I schools.
- Ensure that the required school-level Parent and Family Engagement policies, for all Title I schools, meet the requirement of Section 1118(b) including a School-Parent Compact.
- Incorporate this plan into the LEA Consolidated Plan.
- Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and reports in an understandable and uniform format and in a language parents understand.
- Involve parents of children in all Title I Schools in decisions about how the one percent of reserved allocation for parental involvement is spent and will ensure that no less than 95 percent of this one percent allocation goes directly to the schools.
- Accept the statutory definition of Parent and Family Engagement and expects that Title I Schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition.

*Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring...*

- A. *That families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- B. *That families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- C. *That 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. *The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1111.*

## **Part II: Implementation of Parent and Family Engagement Plan Components**

1. The Washington Parish School System will take the following actions to involve families in the joint development of its district wide Parent and Family Engagement Plan.
  - Parents, teachers, and administrative personnel at each school will meet to evaluate the current district plan and then develop school plans. Parents will serve on all School Improvement Committees to review improvement plans and provide input for future activities. These stakeholders will jointly participate in the development of the district's involvement plan, which will be evaluated annually by parents, school personnel, and district personnel.
2. The Washington Parish School System will take the following actions to involve families in the process of school review and improvement.
  - Each School has a School Improvement Team comprised of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members. This team meets at least once per year to review and assess the success of the School Improvement Plan. Plans are either revised or rewritten, as needed, with input from all stakeholders at each school. School improvement and student achievement information is shared at school meetings (Open House, Family Literacy Nights, Family Math Nights, etc.) and/or through written communication.

3. The Washington Parish School System will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
  - The District Federal Programs Director and Coordinator provide technical assistance to all schools in the district in the planning and implementing of each school's Parent and Family Engagement Plan. This plan must include effective parental involvement activities. Parent trainings and activities will assist parents in working with their children to increase achievement. Trainings and activities include Parenting Centers, Open House, Parent-Teacher conferences, dissemination of informative brochures/pamphlets/handbooks/calendars, etc.
4. The Washington Parish School System will coordinate and integrate Parent and Family Engagement strategies with other Early Childhood programs.
  - Parents are informed of available Early Childhood programs at the beginning of each school year. Early Childhood programs coordinate services and work collaboratively to inform parents. Early Childhood personnel are invited to professional development activities and participate in referrals, identification, and other services provided to children.
5. The Washington Parish School System will take the following actions to conduct, along with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parent and Family Engagement Plan in improving the quality of its Title I schools.
  - This Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be reviewed with the administrators and key members of the staff of each school on an annual basis. This plan and school plans will either be revised or rewritten, as needed, with input from all stakeholders at each school. School teams will interact with parents daily, providing frequent feedback regarding the effectiveness of activities. Parents who do not participate in planned activities will be surveyed to find out what barriers might have kept them from attending. Surveys will be evaluated to provide possible solutions and rethink the process by which parental involvement activities are conducted. Some solutions may include assisting with transportation, childcare activities, language interpreters (when needed), parent trainings, etc.

### **Part III: Discretionary District Wide Components**

The Washington Parish School System will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school in understanding topics, such as the following, by taking the actions described below:

- Information about Title I programs and other educational services will be communicated to parents by parent-teacher conferences, Open House, newspaper articles, brochures, parent handbook, newsletters, monthly calendars, etc.
- The state content standards in ELA and Math will be presented at Parent Night, Math Night, Literacy Nights, Technology Night, and during Test Prep presentations.
- Orientations will be held each year at Middle and High School levels.
- Contact via School Messenger at individual schools

### **Part IV: Acceptance**

This plan is accepted by the Washington Parish School System having been agreed upon with parents of children attending Title I schools. The district will distribute this plan to all parents of Title I schools before the end of the first marking period of the school year or upon enrollment in a district school.