

# **ALLEGANY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **TITLE I**

### **PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

#### **General Expectations**

The Allegany County Public School System's Title I Office will plan and support programs, activities, and procedures for engaging parents/families in all schools that implement a Title I program. The plan outlines the efforts to engage parents/families and build capacity for parents, families and educators alike in forming a strong partnership to promote the educational goals that support high academic expectations for all students. To support this plan, the Title I Office will:

1. Engage parents/families in jointly revising the Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan which is part of Allegany County's Title I Application.
  - At least annually, invite parents/families from each Title I school to review, provide feedback, and revise the district-wide Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan.
2. Provide coordination and technical assistance to schools in planning and implementing effective parent/family engagement activities to improve student achievement and school performance:
  - Hold monthly meetings with the Family Coordinators and communicate regularly with school administrators to support the implementation for parent/family activities.
  - Visit each school regularly to assure that their school-level parent/family engagement plans are being implemented and provide technical assistance as requested.
3. Coordinate and integrate parent/family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State and local laws and programs.
4. Provide assistance to parents/families in understanding Maryland's academic content and student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, Title I requirements as well as how to monitor a child's progress and to work with educators to improve student achievement.
  - Maintain and update ACPS website including information on Title I <http://acpsmd.org/domain/105> , state academic content and achievement standards <http://acps.schoolwires.net/Page/522> , and state and local assessments
  - Include the ESSA Title I requirements in an ACPS Title I newsletter distributed in September.
  - Distribute information regarding the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, Inc. (MAEC)
  - Post copies of the Allegany County Public Schools Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan at each school and on the district's web pages for parents/families to view. <http://acpsmd.org>
5. The Title I Office, in coordination with the Family Coordinators, will provide materials and training to help parents/families work with their children to improve achievement:
  - At least annually, administer the Title I Parent/Family Interest Survey to help identify and design workshops that encourage and support parental/family engagement.
  - The ACPS website provides tips for parents/families on how to support student learning at home.
  - Annually provide information to parents/families regarding regional conferences on parent/family engagement.

- During the year, offer parent/family outreach activities at varied times (day and evening) focused on reading, math, science, social studies, and/or technology.
  - Conduct or assist schools with information sessions to inform parents/families of PARCC and provide materials on how to support learning at home.
6. Educate instructional staff, with parental/family assistance, of the contributions of parents/families and on how to reach out and communicate with parents/families as equal partners:
    - Analyze data from the Title I Parent/Family Interest Survey to identify suggestions for professional development topics for faculty and staff on how to communicate with and work with parents/families as equal partners.
    - Each school's Title I Parent/Family Committee comprised of parents, families and educators will discuss ideas for faculty meetings that support communication and partnerships between parents, families and teachers.
    - Family Coordinators will share with school faculty on a regular basis information related to parent/family engagement.
    - Involve parents/families in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
  7. At least annually, coordinate with the Judy Center, Allegany County Library System, and/or Allegany Health Department on parental/family engagement programs and activities.
    - Judy Center provides information to parents/families on literacy, child development, nutrition, and community services.
    - Head Start provides information and activities for parents/families as well as joint registration for prekindergarten children.
    - Allegany County Health Department provides information to parents/families regarding community services.
  8. Written communication will be provided to parents/families, to the extent possible, in a language and format they can understand and are translated appropriately.
  9. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental/family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
  10. Maximize parental engagement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting telephone conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school.
  11. Utilize each school's Title I Parent/Family Committee provides advice on all matters related to parental/family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
  12. Title I schools conduct a midyear parent/family engagement survey to evaluate the effectiveness of the school's Parent/Family Engagement Plan. Family Coordinators make an effort to personally contact parents/families who are limited English proficient or who have limited literacy to assist with the survey. Survey results are shared with faculty in order to guide revision to the school's parent/family engagement plan.