

2019-2020 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, revise and evaluate the district-wide Title I Parent/Family Engagement Plan. Evaluation items include barriers to participation by families, needs of parents/families to assist children in learning, strategies to support successful interaction between schools and families, and the use of evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement.
 - At least annually, invite parents/families to have input on how funds for parent/family engagement activities are reserved and allotted.
2. Provide coordination and technical assistance to schools in planning and implementing effective parent/family engagement activities to build capacity to improve student achievement and school performance:
 - Hold monthly meetings with the Family Engagement Coordinators and communicate regularly with school administrators to support the implementation of 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
 - Include the ESSA Title I requirements in an ACPS Title I newsletter distributed in September.
 - 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 Engagement 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 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 sessions to inform parents/families on MCAP 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 that support communication and partnerships between parents/families and teachers.
 - Family Engagement Coordinators will share with school faculty 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 and integrate with the Judy Center, Allegany County Library System, and/or Allegany Health Department on parental/family engagement programs and activities to the extent feasible and appropriate.
 - 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 to provide 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 content and effectiveness of the school's Parent/Family Engagement Plan. Family Engagement Coordinators make an effort to personally contact parents/families who are English Learners (EL) or who have limited literacy to assist with the survey. Survey results are shared with faculties in order to guide revision to the school's parent/family engagement plan.