



District-wide Parental Involvement Plan 2014-2015 School Year

PART I

General Expectations

The Walker County Schools District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district 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 of 1965 (ESEA). These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district 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 include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parental involvement plan 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 school district 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.
- 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 involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 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.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
 - (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
 - (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
 - (C) that parents 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 1118 of the ESEA.*
- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the PIRC in the State. The Georgia PIRC closed on 9/30/2012 due to a loss in grant funds, and the agency is no longer providing services to the State of Georgia.

PART II.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

1. The Walker County Schools District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - *Conduct an electronic survey of parents at each school through a link provided to the schools to post on their website,*
 - *Conduct a parent focus group, and*
 - *Conduct a bilingual focus group for Hispanic parents.*

2. The Walker County Schools District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - *Hold a public review of CCRPI results and improvement plans and*
 - *Require schools to review their CCRPI results with parents at their school along with any required school improvement plans.*

3. The Walker County Schools District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
 - *Title I Coordinator will provide to principals and parent involvement coordinators a month-by-month checklist of requirements in Title I, Part A and Parent Involvement,*
 - *Title I Coordinator will provide technical assistance meetings for principals and parent involvement coordinators throughout the school year to ensure successful implementation of Title I, Part A requirements, and*
 - *Title I Coordinator will provide on-site technical assistance visits to provide feedback/guidance on Title I, Part A and Parent Involvement requirements and activities.*

4. The Walker County Schools District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-operated preschool programs], by:
 - *Conducting transition days with local public and private preschool providers, including local Head Start programs*
 - *Coordinator will provide Title I, Part A Parent Involvement Awareness program for parents at local Head Start programs*

5. The Walker County Schools District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement 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 school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

- *A system level electronic survey will be conducted annually for the purposes of evaluating parent involvement. The survey link will be posted on the system's website and information regarding the survey link and importance will be sent home to all parents in school-wide Title I schools. Parents will be contacted by electronic calling service to notify them of the system survey. The survey will be updated annually by the Title I Coordinator and sent to the Technology Coordinator for posting on system website. The Title I Coordinator will provide information sheet regarding the survey to Title I schools for distribution to parents. The Title I Coordinator will provide the script for the Title I survey communication for electronic calling service.*
- *All parents in Title I schools will be invited to participate in Parent Focus groups to provide their feedback for the purposes of revising the LEA Parent Involvement Plan.*

1. The Walker County Schools District will 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, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- the State's academic content standards,
- the State's student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Part A,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators:

(List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-State and out-of-State, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

- *Monthly meetings for Parent Involvement Coordinators/Principals to provide technical assistance on meeting the requirements to build parental capacity.*
- *Laptop, projector for conducting the technical assistance*
- *Paper for copying necessary hand-outs*
- *Computers at the school level for Parent Involvement Coordinator to participate in webinars with GaDOE Parent Involvement specialists*
- *Parent Involvement/Family Engagement conferences sponsored by GaDOE*
- *Title I Conferences sponsored by GaDOE*

- B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:
- *Maintaining an active partnership with Walker Family Connections for resources to support parents with literacy needs.*
 - *Title I parent/family activities for literacy training, utilizing technology*
- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
- *Parent Advisory Committees*
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- *Partnership Meetings*
 - *Transition Activities*
- E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/family- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- *Utilize translators/interpreters for communicating information to parents: copy of handbook and Title I related communications*

F. Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement/family engagement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

- *Feedback from our LEA Parent Involvement Survey suggests three areas of need: 1) transportation, 2) childcare, and 3) parent work schedule as a barrier. Walker County Schools will encourage it's Title I schools to use a portion of the 1% Parent Involvement Set Aside for transportation and childcare. Further, WCS will encourage it's Title I schools to utilize "flipped" parent involvement activities that allow parents to access the information through technology on their time schedule.*

PART III.

DISCRETIONARY DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The District wide Parental Involvement Plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.

PART IV.

ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by system survey results, focus group results, and feedback collected from parents on Monday, July 21, 2014.

This plan was adopted by the **Walker County Schools District** on July 22, 2014 and will be in effect for the period of one year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 30, 2014.

Revised July 22, 2014

