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### FEDERAL PROGRAMS STAFF

- Jamie Chapman  
Superintendent
- Vanessa Anthony  
Associate Superintendent  
Federal Programs  
Coordinator
- Anissa Ball  
Parent and Family  
Engagement Coordinator

### PICKENS COUNTY SCHOOLS

- Aliceville Elementary School  
Terry Sterling, Principal
- Aliceville High School  
Fred Young, Principal
- Aliceville Middle School  
Fred Young, Principal
- Gordo Elementary School  
Ken Holder, Principal
- Gordo High School  
Mark Capps, Principal
- Pickens County College and  
Career Center  
Chan Mullenix, Director
- Pickens County High School  
SheMia Wilson, Principal
- Reform Elementary School  
Valerie Jackson, Principal

## GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

### *The Pickens County School 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 (ESEA). Those 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 LEA parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement re-

quirements, 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 Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

## DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The Pickens County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its LEA parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

- *Form Parental Involvement committees; committees will*

*consist of parents, students, and teachers*

- *Call a meeting to develop plans of action for each school; plans will include results from surveys and assessment results*

- *Schedule meetings at each school once every six weeks*

- *District Parental Involvement committee meetings once per semester with parents*

**STAY CONNECTED**

**Pickens County Schools**

[www.pickenscountyschools.net](http://www.pickenscountyschools.net)

School websites:

**Aliceville Elementary**

[www.alicevilleelementary.net](http://www.alicevilleelementary.net)

**Aliceville High**

[www.alicevillehigh.net](http://www.alicevillehigh.net)

**Aliceville Middle**

[www.alicevillemiddle.net](http://www.alicevillemiddle.net)

**Gordo Elementary**

[www.gordoelementary.net](http://www.gordoelementary.net)

**Gordo High**

[www.gordohigh.net](http://www.gordohigh.net)

**Pickens County High**

[www.pickenscountyhigh.net](http://www.pickenscountyhigh.net)

**Pickens County College and Career Center**

[www.pickens4c.net](http://www.pickens4c.net)

**Reform Elementary**

[www.reformelementary.net](http://www.reformelementary.net)



Pickens County Schools

Sign up for Notify Me at your child's school website



**DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED COMPONENTS**

2. The Pickens County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Include parents on the Continuous Improvement Plan committees at each school to review plans
- Send surveys home to gain input on parent workshops and parent activities
- Share information at PTSO meetings and give parents an opportunity to ask questions



- Implement parent involvement activities every six weeks

3. The Pickens County School 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:

- Conduct parent workshops to help parents access online resources for students
- Create links for parents on websites to share information
- Conduct parent workshops to assist in using the INow Home Portal which accesses attendance, grades, and school information

- Allow parents to take the School Climate Survey and the Parental Involvement Survey online as well as paper/pencil
- Sponsor activities such as General Title I Meetings, Open Houses, Social Media Days, Grandparent Days, Honor Programs, and Teacher/Parent Conferences during and after school hours

4. The Pickens County School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

**REQUIRED COMPONENTS CONTINUED...**

- Pickens County Early Learning Center (PCELC) students and parents are invited to visit the schools on pre-registration days.
- The PCELC students tour each of their schools two times per year to become familiar with the school before they begin the next year.
- The PCELC students also visit the schools during

special events such as homecoming activities, and school plays/program.

5. The Pickens County School 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

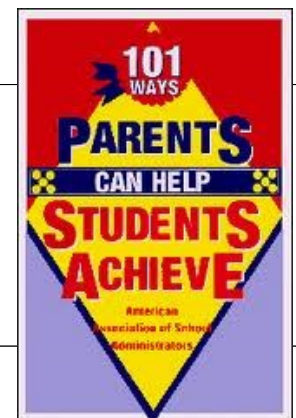
**REQUIRED COMPONENTS CONTINUED...**

effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

the next school year to better meet the needs of the parents.

- The Title I Committee will conduct the surveys and gather the information.
- The committee will analyze the results and report the findings to stakeholders.
- The committee uses the results to change parental involvement activities for

- The results are also used in the Continuous Improvement Plan.



## POLICIES

1. The Pickens County School District will build the schools' and parent's 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:

Actions to be taken:

- Combine Parent Teacher Student meetings among cities in the district
- Conduct an INow Home Portal training session
- Inform parents by using Notify Me and Facebook
- Create Newsletters



- Inform parents about how to access programs such as: Accelerated Reader, Compass Learning, ACT Aspire, and ACT Periodic Assessment
  - Discuss Common Core/ College and Career Ready Standards as well as ACT Work Keys and ACT Plus Writing
- 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

## POLICIES CONTINUED...

literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Provide websites for programs used at school
- Show parents how to use Alabama Virtual Library
- Conduct Social Media Day (information for student's academics, etc.)

- Have Parent/Student Luncheons
- Have Parents/Grandparents Day

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:

- District and School websites
- Social Media
- Notify Me
- Newsletters
- Mailings to local churches

## POLICIES CONTINUED...

and local newspapers

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, 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 par-



ent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- Pickens County Early Learning Center students visit kindergarten classes and eat lunch at their home based schools. Parents also visit schools.
- Career Fair Days

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school

and parent- 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:

- Translators
- Simplify newsletters
- Multi Language Newsletters
- Notify Me
- Remind 101 (parents sign-up to get information from school through text)

## OCTOBER

Is

## PARENT VISITATION MONTH

Because parent engagement—now more than ever—is such a critical factor in determining the success or failure of students and schools, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) recognizes the need for ongoing, meaningful parent engagement.

The Department is promoting Statewide Parent Visitation Month in October. It is intended as a community effort—a time for schools, businesses, community agencies, churches, and government to turn their attention to the important role of parents in the education of their children.

We extend an invitation for all schools to become a part of this important statewide event.

**Each school has various activities planned!**



# PICKENS COUNTY SCHOOLS

377 LaDow Center Circle  
Carrollton, AL 35447

Phone: 205-367-2080  
Fax: 205-367-8404



The following information will be available: **attendance, current grades, schedules, progress reports, and report cards.**

**To login to the iNOW Portal**  
Access the Pickens County Schools website:  
[www.pickenscountyschools.net](http://www.pickenscountyschools.net)

Go to the Parents & Students section; Click the link labeled iNow Parent Home Portal.

Enter the following information:  
Username: **student**; Password: **pcboe054**---a second screen will appear

Enter your child's username and generic password provided by the school.

*Inspiring Ethical Leaders...  
One Child At A Time!*



## DISCRETIONARY LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The Pickens County School District will build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school district to support their children's academic achievement, by doing the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:



- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- 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 transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to 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 LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

## TITLE I NEWS

*We would like to remind all parents that ALL of our schools are Title I Schoolwide Project Schools. They receive federal funds based on the school's student free and reduced lunch count. These funds help our schools provide services and materials to help our students achieve the goals outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act. A public meeting was held in your school at which time the Title I program and parents rights and responsibilities were explained. The School Title I Plan and the LEA Title I plan can be reviewed by the public at anytime. Due to federal requirements, there are items that the Pickens County Board of Education must make available to the parents/guardians of our stu-*

*dents. These items are in this newsletter. If you wish to review the plan, please call the school or the central office and make an appointment to do so. If anyone has questions about Title I, Vanessa Anthony or Anissa Ball will be happy to answer them. They can be reached at the Board of Education Central Office at 205-367-2080 ext. 208 or 203.*





### How Important is Parent and Family Engagement?

*Research is clear on this subject. Parent involvement in education makes a huge difference in your child's school success. So even if your child seems unconcerned about your presence, he's surely affected by it.*


*In fact, many home tasks are associated with higher student achievement. The National Education Association (NEA) strongly suggests talking about school, helping with homework and monitoring your child's time.*

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW

GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MEANS...

				
<b>PRESCHOOLERS</b> <small>Build skills and develop good habits for showing up on time.</small>	<b>ELEMENTARY STUDENTS</b> <small>Read well by the end of third grade.</small>	<b>MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLERS</b> <small>Stay on track for graduation.</small>	<b>COLLEGE STUDENTS</b> <small>Earn their degrees.</small>	<b>WORKERS</b> <small>Succeed in their jobs.</small>

Too many absences—excused or unexcused—can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. How many are too many? 10% of the school year—that's 18 missed days or 2 days a month—can knock students off track.



**Attendance Works**  
Accelerating Student Success by Reducing Chronic Absence  
[www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)