



Strategies to Increase Parental Involvement

East Lawrence High School
Lawrence County Board of Education

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Introduction

All Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Schools must complete the following diagnostics: the Stakeholder Feedback Diagnostic, the Parent Involvement Diagnostic, the Coordination of Resource/Comprehensive Budget Diagnostic, and EITHER the Title I Targeted Assistance Diagnostic OR the Title I Schoolwide Diagnostic. Parent Survey must be done annually, but it can be done electronically or by paper.

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1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved.

An annual parent meeting will be held to notify parents of their rights through Title I. During this meeting, the school will provide an overview of the aCIP and offer parents an opportunity for feedback and suggestions on the aCIP and the School-Parent compacts. Parents who attend also complete the Parent Survey and a budget survey.

2. Describe: 1) How there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered; 2) How parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making.); and 3) How funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school.

The annual parent meeting is scheduled during the evening in hopes of accommodating as many parents as possible. Also, parent teacher conference day is scheduled to include times after business hours so that working parents may attend. Parents are involved in the planning and review of the aCIP by serving on aCIP committees and aCIP Leadership Team which meets 3-4 times per year. Also, parents have opportunity for input on budget matters through the budget survey distributed at the annual parent meeting.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

Within the first week of school, teachers send home a syllabus that includes an outline of the course content, assessment/grading procedures, and student expectations. The syllabus also includes information about how and when parents may contact the teacher for a parent conference. To the extent that the school is aware, teachers are notified of students with limited English proficiency (LEP) so that a syllabus and other correspondence may be sent home in the home language. Also, parents may use STI Home to check students' grades and attendance any time. The Code of Conduct and the Promotion standards both outline student behavior expectations and academic standards and are both available in the home language.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated).

Within the first week of school, teachers send home a syllabus that includes an outline of the course content, assessment/grading procedures, and student expectations. The syllabus also includes information about how and when parents may contact the teacher for a parent conference. To the extent that the school is aware, teachers are notified of students with limited English proficiency (LEP) parents so that a syllabus and other correspondence may be sent home in the home language. After the first 6 weeks, East Lawrence High School

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holds its annual Parent/Teacher Conference. Parents are notified of this meeting through (1) notices sent home by students, (2) a school cast phone message, and (3) newspaper announcements. To assist in providing the opportunity for all parents to attend, the meeting is held from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Parent conferences are also granted year-round as requested, not only in person but also via email or phone to accommodate as many parents as possible. Our school holds an annual Awards Day where students are recognized for academic and athletic achievements. Parents are encouraged to attend. Our school sends letters/fliers home with the students to be given to parents. Before the new school year, our school has a Freshmen Orientation for eighth grade students going into the ninth grade. Parents are encouraged to attend with their child. Our school has a website at www.elhseagles.com We send our School Parent Compact to parents annually for their input, and we use these suggestions to update our compact. Promotion standards and the Code of Conduct are sent home to parents. Parents must sign a form stating they have read the Code of Conduct. This form is returned to school.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan.

At the Annual Parent Meeting, the school presents the aCIP to the parents and the content. At that time, parents are offered an opportunity to submit suggestions anonymously. Also, the aCIP is available at the Parent Resource Center in the library. Suggestion sheets are also available there for parents to submit. Parents also have the option to view the aCIP and submit suggestions through the school website www.elhseagles.com.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide training for parents of participating children in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. (Describe)

East Lawrence High School will accomplish much of this through its annual Parent/Teacher Conference. At that time, parents will receive an overview of the state academic content standards, academic achievement standards, and assessments. Our school sends progress reports home in the middle of each grading period. Promotion standards and the Code of Conduct are sent home to parents. Parents must sign a form stating they have read the Code of Conduct. This form is returned to school. Report cards are sent home to parents after each 6 week grading period. A report card is mailed to each parent who has a student with an "F". Parent requests, both formal and informal, are addressed.

Eagle Alliance is the East Lawrence High School parent-teacher partnership. Eagle Alliance meetings are held regularly to keep parents informed and involved. East Lawrence High School also keeps parents informed through a digital newsletter via Tackk. The digital newsletter "Eagles Learning Takes Flight" is posted on our school website www.elhseagles.com and is also shared through social media.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve

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student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (Describe)

East Lawrence High School's aCIP committee works diligently to ensure that all parent materials and training are closely aligned with our school's identified goals. Our school system has community education classes offered at night for anyone seeking a GED. Our county has an Even Start program available for teenage mothers. Our students are involved with Big Brother Big Sisters, working in conjunction with our middle school. Our system works with DHR and the Muscle Shoals Baptist Association to provide school supplies for needy children at the beginning of the school year.

6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school. (Describe)

East Lawrence High School will continue to work with its teachers through in-service, faculty meetings, and subject area meetings to understand the importance of parental involvement and that parents are our partners. Our school system has community education classes offered to anyone seeking a GED.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.(Describe)

Our school has parent volunteers involved with extracurricular activities. A parent resource area has been established in the library. Parents are encouraged to attend our annual Awards Day. Parents are encouraged to attend homecoming activities. These activities include: the tailgate party, homecoming parade, pep rally, pre-game activities, ballgame and half-time activities. Parents are encouraged to attend Beta Club and National Honor Society inductions. Our band concert is held each spring. Parents are encouraged to attend.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve

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student academic achievement, our school:

Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (Describe)

Our school has a Spanish teacher available for immediate translation. We have a certified ESL teacher and a system-wide paraprofessional who is fluent in Spanish. Both provide tutoring services in the local school. Our school has a website at www.elhseagles.com.

6f. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (Describe)

East Lawrence High School makes every effort to work with parents in meeting their requests as related to their involvement in their child's education. Internet policies are sent home for parents to sign. Parents are informed of graduation requirements by the state.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students; including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

To the extent possible, parent correspondence is available in the home language. We have one teacher and one paraprofessional who are available for Spanish translation. One ELL parent serves on the CIP Leadership Team, and we provide a translator so that he may participate in the improvement process. The School Parent Compact, Code of Conduct, and Promotion Standards are printed in Spanish. The school facilities are accessible to those with physical disabilities.