

Cheatham County Title I

Family & Community Engagement Plan

The Title I program in the Cheatham County School System will take the following steps to establish and maintain a program, which will promote family involvement in schools and is consistent with the Tennessee State Standards on Parent Involvement which were adopted by the State Board of Education on July 30, 2010, and the Cheatham County Board policy on Family Involvement.

We recognize families, communities, and schools, have a mutual responsibility to work together in order to increase student achievement. We welcome family and community engagement in the educational process and believe this involvement is vital to the academic success of all students. We are committed to ensuring that families of children of all ages and grade levels (regardless of the family's educational background, race / ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, geographical location, primary language, or disability) have opportunities to be involved in this process.

We encourage cooperation among the school, families and community members in order to increase involvement and participation that promote the social, emotional, career and academic growth of our students. We will utilize the following state standards to create a true partnership between parents, communities and the schools for the purpose of providing a high quality education for students – an education that will have all students college or career ready at graduation!

I. WELCOMING ALL FAMILIES TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- Title I or school sponsored workshops will be held in each school.
- County-wide events such as ELL night, Ages and Stages, Kindergarten Round-Up, and others will be held monthly.
- District staff will attend Back to School nights, Open House nights and other school meetings when possible.
- School and county staff will make home visits for hard to reach families when needs arise.
- Parents are encouraged to volunteer in classrooms, parent centers and attend school activities.

- The district will provide translators and paperwork will be provided in a language families can read and understand (when possible).

II. COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY

- Invitations and reminders to parent meetings and events are sent home.
- Monthly parent workshops are made available in individual schools and district-wide.
- Cheatham County Title I Parent/Student Handbook are sent home.
- District and Schools' Family and Community Engagement Plans are sent home.
- School Family/School compacts are sent home
- School Reach phone messages are used as reminders of meetings and events.
- Parent/Family activities and information are posted on district and school websites.
- Formal Parent /Teacher Conferences are held twice each year.
- Interpreters and materials are available, as needed.
- Teacher and parent training are available in new parent involvement standards and in better ways to reach families and parents.
- District and school staff are available for informal conferences, as needed.

III. SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

- District and individual schools will work together to provide parents information on reading, math, discipline, assessment information and other topics when requested.
- A district-wide learning center, including copies of textbooks used in Cheatham County schools and computers for parents and students to use has been provided with the help of the public library.
- District and school websites provide useful parent information.
- Many of the county textbooks can be accessed online.

IV. SPEAKING UP FOR EVERY CHILD

- Parent and community members participate in annual review/ renew of County-wide Family & Community Engagement plan, budget and activities provided by Title I
- District staff, school staff, parents and members of the community will annual review each school's Family and Community Engagement Plan and Family/School Compact.
- Annual meetings will be held at each school to welcome families, discuss the Title I program and policies and the importance of family/community involvement at each school.
- District ELL Night welcomes families of English learners to discuss programs, policies, and family involvement.
- Parent workshops by school and district staff are held at each school to address curriculum, student testing, testing results, and the schools and district report card.

V. SHARING POWER

- Parent and community members will be invited to participate in County-wide Family & Community Engagement planning meetings (renewing Home/School Compact and Family & Community Engagement plan and activities and budget).
- Parents and community members will be given an opportunity to complete Family Community Engagement surveys and evaluations.
- Parents will be asked to complete evaluations and make comments after workshops.
- District integrates parent involvement activities with other programs, such as Head Start, Voluntary Pre-Schools, Coordinated School Health, UT/TSU Extension Service, Cheatham County Reading Council, Imagination Library, ELL, Centerstone, Early Connections Network, and the Cheatham County Community Partners.

VI. COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Parent and community members participate in Cheatham County Family and Community Engagement Planning Committee to review family plan, budget, and activities for the year.
- Parents and community members complete annual Family and Community Engagement surveys and evaluations annually.
- Parents are encouraged to give ongoing input concerning workshop needs.
- Parents are encouraged to give suggestions and comments and to evaluate each workshop given.
- District integrates parent involvement activities with other agencies, such as Head Start, Voluntary Pre-Schools, Coordinated School Health, UT/TSU Extension Service, Cheatham County Reading Council, Imagination Library, ELL, Centerstone, Early Connections Network, Cheatham County Community Partners, Cheatham County Ministerial Alliance, Civitan, and Adult Education.