

Echols County Schools

2016-2017

Title I

District Parent Involvement Policy



Mr. Lance Heard, Superintendent

The Echols County School District (ECSD) acknowledges the need of a quality education for all children. The district also acknowledges the legal and ethical responsibilities for the implementation of such programs, and the involvement of parents/guardians of Title I students in the process. Parental Involvement shall include, but not be limited to establishing partnerships with parents and the local community while encouraging their participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of the Local Educational Agency's (LEA) Title I Parent Involvement Policy.

1. With input from parents, the Echols County School District will jointly develop a District (LEA) Parent Involvement Policy. All Title I parents will be given multiple opportunities to give input on the District (LEA) Parent Involvement Policy. Opportunities for input will be made available at Echols County Parent Involvement Team (EPIC) Meetings, Echols County High School Parent Connect Meetings, and other school functions. All Title I parents will receive a hard copy of this document. Copies will be sent home with each participating students. Hard copies will be available to parents and community members at each school, in the Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC) and at the Echols County Board of Education. Electronic copies will be available to parents and community members on the District and School websites. This document will be available in English and translated to other language, when practicable.
2. Echols County School District will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other reasonable support necessary to assist participating schools in writing, planning and implementing effective parent involvement policies and activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. We will provide face to face input during school visits and Parent Involvement meetings and workshops. In addition to face to face assistance, well maintain regular email and telephone documentation of assistance provided.
3. Echols County School District will coordinate and integrate Parental Involvement strategies under other programs, such as State-run Pre-school programs. Pre-school classes will be included in school-wide activities to the extent feasible. Pre-school literature may be available in school newsletters and in the Parent Information resource Center (PIRC).
4. All Title I Schools will hold an Annual Title I Parent Meeting in the fall of each school year. This will be a stand-alone meeting, where all Title I parents will be invited and encouraged to attend. During this meeting, Title I Schools will inform parents about guidelines, purposes, goals, budget, and the requirements of the Title I program. An explanation will be given of the components of a Targeted Assisted and a School-Wide Title I School. Title I Parents will be informed of their school's academic performance, qualification of teachers and paraprofessionals, and their right to be involved. Title I Parents will be made aware of their right to give input, on multiple occasions, on the following documents: The District (LEA) and School Parent Involvement Policies, the School-Parent-Student Compact, the School Improvement Plan, the School-Wide Plan, and the Continuous LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP). Every Title I parent will receive a written copy of the information discussed at the Annual Title I Parent Meeting, even those who were unable to attend.
5. We will involve parents as we conduct an annual evaluation of the Parental Involvement Policy in improving the academic quality of the schools. We will seek to identify barriers to greater

participation by all parents in activities, especially parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English Proficiency, have limited literacy, or if they are of any racial or ethnic minority background. Once the barriers are identified, we will design strategies to reduced and or eliminate them to ensure for more effective Parental Involvement policies and programs.

6. All Title I parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend all school and community related Parent Involvement events. We will encourage parents to become officers of the Echols County Parent Involvement Team and the Echols County High School Parent Connect Organization. As parent leaders, they will inspire other parents to get involved. In efforts to bridge the gap between home, school and the community, we will strive to make Community Partners an integral part of our team.
7. Workshops will be offered to inform all Title I parents about the Georgia Milestones Assessment, the state's academic content standards, the State's student academic achievement standards, the state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I. Parents will also be given tips on how to monitor their child's progress and work with their child's teachers to improve academic achievement.
8. During Parent Involvement Events/Workshops, parents will receive training materials that will assist them in working with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Additional training material may be available in newsletters, websites, and the Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC).
9. Each Title I School with the assistance of parents, when possible, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other school 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. This will include power point presentations at faculty and or grade level meetings. This will also include electronic tips throughout the school year.
10. We will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, workshops, and other activities will be sent home and made available on the website, are available in and understandable and uniform format, including alternate formats upon request. We will also ensure, to the extent practical, documents will be made available in a language the parents can understand. We will achieve this by having Title I documents translated.
11. Other reasonable support for Parental Involvement activities will be provided based on Workshop Evaluation requests and Parent Survey requests. We will also pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with Parent Involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and workshops. We will arrange meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teaches or other educators who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school, in order to maximize Parent Involvement and participation in their children's education.