

VIDALIA CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
TITLE I PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN
2016-2017

Revised July, 2016

1. The Vidalia City School District will involve parents in the development of our district wide parental involvement plan by:
 - Distributing parent input forms to all parents of students enrolled in Title I schools to involve parents in the development of this policy, the district plan, and the use of parent involvement funds.
 - Providing parents access to the information in the district's parental involvement plan through the district website and by sending the plan home with each student in a Title I school.
 - Engaging in open communication about the plan at all parent meetings and school advisory meetings.
2. The Vidalia City School District will involve parents in school review and improvement by:
 - Holding an annual meeting for parents of students to discuss the review and implementation of the Title I plan, and how Title I funds for parental involvement activities will be used.
 - Soliciting parent feedback and input from: PTO meetings, School Governance meetings, Comprehensive Needs Assessment meeting, and online annual surveys in spring.
3. The Vidalia City School District will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support to schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by:
 - Providing guidance on appropriate use of parent involvement funds along with a periodic status report at parent meetings.
 - Reviewing school parental involvement plans to ensure compliance, including minutes from parent meetings showing it was developed jointly with parent input.
4. The Vidalia City School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with the following other programs: Head Start, Migrant Head Start, Parent Teacher Organizations such as PTO, and the lottery-funded Pre-Kindergarten program by:
 - Coordinating with early educational programs to invite families and preschool children into the schools to take a tour and participate in planned activities.
 - Collaborating with external early education programs to assist in preparing young learners for school and parents for school transition.
5. The Vidalia City School District will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of our schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, and with the involvement of parents our parental involvement plans.
 - Conduct an annual evaluation and request parent feedback through multiple methods of contact including, but not limited to, surveys and open discussion forums, and parent meetings.
 - Use evaluation results in planning improvements during the current school year and for subsequent school years.

6. The Vidalia City School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to improve student academic achievement, through the following:

A. Provide assistance to the parents of children by:

- Conducting parent meetings regarding Georgia Milestones to inform parents about changes in their child's curriculum and testing.
- Providing a brochure for parents that explain the standards in an easy-to-read format.

B. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement by:

- Providing an evening computer lab for parents to learn about literacy or how to use technology through training classes.
- Distributing parent guides to provide tips and ideas to parents on helping their children with core content subject areas.

C. Educate teachers, student 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, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and school by:

- Establishing requirements and work with school principals to cofacilitate their initial Title I parent meetings.
- Providing adequate professional development on parent involvement for teachers and administrators on a quarterly basis to address topics such as: communicating with parents, including parents in the homework process, parental involvement/engagement, and promoting cultural competency.

D. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Migrant Head Start, Parent-Teacher Organizations such as PTO, and the lottery-funded Pre-Kindergarten program and other programs and conduct activities such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Advertising at each parent meeting. on the district website and Remind 101, Twitter or Facebook that there is a school parent resource center located in each counselor's office open from 7:45-4:15 for parents to utilize academic resources on behalf of their children.

E. Ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

- Provide written communications in a language the parents can understand.
- Contract the services of an interpreter as needed for parent meetings.

F. Ensure that other reasonable support of parental involvement activities as parents may request will include:

- Principals and other school and system personnel will respond in a timely manner to the needs and requests of parents as they relate to the parental involvement plan.
- Feasible requests are incorporated into the existing plan for the year or are considered for implementation the following year.