



**Local Educational Agency (LEA)/District Level
Parental Involvement Plan/Policy
Petersburg City Public Schools
School Year 2017-2018
*Revision Date 09/23/2017***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Petersburg City Public Schools receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by Section 1118(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectation for parental involvement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

Petersburg City Public Schools agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1118:

- 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. These 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.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements 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 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 be governed by the following 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) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Petersburg City Public Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its LEA parental involvement plan under Section 1112 and the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

- *Present the existing parental involvement plan to parents of PCPS Title I schools during the family engagement events scheduled for the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.*
- *Facilitate two focus groups (one per semester) to gather information and input from parents to inform the 2018-2019 parental involvement plan.*
- *Present appropriate proposed revisions to the parental involvement plan for the 2018-2019 school year.*

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Petersburg City Public Schools 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:

- *Each Title I school will be assigned a Family Engagement Specialist who will oversee the planning and implementation of effective parental involvement activities, identify ways to improve parent involvement initiatives, and collect relevant data to ensure effective family engagement practices.*
- *Family Engagement Specialists will meet consistently with their Title I instructional teams to ensure that activities are aligned with established academic goals*
- *Develop collaborative strategies to engage parents in the efforts to improve student academic achievement and school performance.*

ANNUAL EVALUATION

Petersburg City Public Schools will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy 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 to inform future practice and activities

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

- *The Family Engagement Team will conduct annual evaluations of the quality of the existing parental involvement policy. These evaluations will be administered in two formats to reach as many parents as possible.*
- *Each Family Engagement Specialist will conduct a school-based evaluation with parents in a focus group format. A second evaluation will be held with an open invitation to parents from all Title I schools to attend.*
- *Results from these evaluations will provide information that may be included in the 2018-2019 parental involvement policy.*

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Petersburg City Public Schools 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 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- *Family Engagement Specialists will share information regarding the funds reserved for parental involvement during the Title I Awareness presentation.*
- *The 2017-2018 school family engagement calendar will be shared with parents to inform them of the school's efforts to engage all families while also providing an opportunity for them to add suggestions and input.*
- *Family Engagement Specialists will host a school meeting to gather parent input regarding family engagement efforts for the school year. Parents will evaluate the year's activities to provide input regarding the effective allocation of funds for the following school year.*

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Petersburg City Public Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under other programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- *Utilizing Family Engagement Specialists to build networks in the community that support family engagement initiatives.*
- *Partnering with organizations to provide supportive services to families that will positively impact student academic achievement and overall school performance.*
- *Implementing a coherent strategy for engaging parent in the education of their children by utilizing the family engagement team*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Petersburg City Public Schools will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- 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 Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child’s progress
- How to work with educators

Some examples are:

- *Monthly family engagement workshops/events dedicated to parental involvement*
- *Monthly Lunch and Learn Sessions for families*
- *Monthly Parent Nights focused on literacy and mathematics at each Title I school*
- *Scheduled SOL Prep Nights for families at each Title I school*
- *Annual Title I Awareness presentations at each Title I school*
- *Academic Assessment Information sessions at each Title I school*
- *Parent Resource Centers equipped with academic resources, games, and information to help parents assist their students with learning*
- *Information sessions focused on teaching parents how to use student technology*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Petersburg City Public Schools will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff on how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:

- *Establishing Parent Advisory Councils in each school will provide monthly forums for parents to share input and provide expertise.*
- *Providing continuous professional development to the Family Engagement Team in the following areas: trauma-informed care, home visit protocol, family engagement strategies, and community outreach.*
- *Once certified, Family Engagement team members will provide training to staff and families regarding trauma-informed care and its impact on student learning.*

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents

- *Members of the Parent Advisory Council will be recruited, trained, and utilized to recruit other parents to increase parent involvement in schools and support student learning.*

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

- *The Family Engagement Team will continue to offer opportunities for families at various times to accommodate different schedules.*
- *The Family Engagement Team will identify innovative strategies to engage families that are not able to participate regularly in activities/events held at schools.*

Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement

- *Staff will be trained and receive continuous professional development regarding model approaches, innovative strategies, and best practices to improve parental involvement.*
- *The Family Engagement Team will share this information with staff and families through various presentations, workshops, and events.*

Establishing a LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs

- *Each Title I school, as in years past, will establish a Parent Advisory Council to incorporate parental advice in school and family engagement initiatives.*
- *A Title I District Parent Advisory Council will also continue to function as a forum for gathering advice and input from a collective perspective.*

Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities

- *Community-based organizations and businesses will continue to play an integral role in parental involvement activities. Family Engagement Specialists will serve a role integral to Petersburg Promise, a volunteer management system.*

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)