

# Annual Evaluation of the Content and Effectiveness of the LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy

(Required for LEAs with Title I Schools)

School System: Andalusia City Schools

Date Completed: 9-23-20

*What the law requires:*

The LEA must (1) conduct **with parents** an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized activities; and (2) use the findings to design more effective strategies and revise the policy.

Evaluating your plan should be done with LEA and school staff as well as parents. All Title I parents should be aware that the policy is being evaluated and understand the procedure that is in place allowing them the opportunity for input. Input may be from serving as a member of the committee conducting the evaluation; completing a parent and family engagement survey; participating in parent focus groups; etc. The input, including the results of the parent involvement survey, should be used to assist in addressing the following evaluation components. **The completed evaluation should be posted to the LEA's e-GAP Document Library each year when the Consolidated Application is submitted to the SDE.**

What were our student achievement goals this year? Our goals are to increase academic growth and academic achievement in all grade levels in the areas of ELA and Math.

How did we work as partners with parents in meeting those goals?

1. We conducted Open House meetings where parents were encouraged to come walk through their child's schedule and meet all of teachers. In these meetings, teachers communicated academic and behavioral goals of their students and shared with them how best to contact them for support (i.e. social media, Remind101, email, progress reports cover sheets, online classroom log-in information, and the iNow Parent Portal).
2. We sent home test data that informed parents of their child's status, so they could be involved in their student's growth.
3. We collaborated with the A.P.P.L.E. program to offer interventions (CLASSWORKS) that target students' lowest test scores.

How can we improve with actively involving parents in the activities of our schools?

1. ACS has upgraded our school website to be more user-friendly and provide updated information. School events and activities will be kept current in order to encourage family participation.
2. More positive contacts, utilizing social media, Remind101, ClassDojo, SeeSaw, and Google Classroom, as well as TV, FaceBook and the newspaper.

Do we have any barriers to parent and family engagement that need to be addressed?

1. Transportation for parents continues to be a problem. We are utilizing conference calls and Google Meets when necessary.

How are we ensuring the distribution of our LEA and school parent and family engagement policy to all Title I parents?

1. LEA Parental Involvement Plans are printed in the family calendars that are given to every student in the LEA.
2. Student Parental Involvement Plans are sent home with every student during the first grading period of the year.

How can we improve on training that is offered to parents: To help them work with their child at home? To help them to be active partners in LEA and school decision-making?

1. ACS is focusing on the online tools and programs that are available to parents. Many teachers at ACS use some form of online classroom participation. (i.e. Google Classroom, SeeSaw, Remind 101, ClassDojo, etc.) Teachers could spend extra time introducing parents to these online tools either during an Open House or by sending home a pamphlet that explains how to access these tools. We provide a link to all online tools that our teachers and students utilize on the school website. Teachers also give explicit information to parents and students on their LMS that instructs parents and students on how to use the tools.

How can we improve on training that we offer school staff/teachers to help them to work more effectively with parents?

1. We have a mentoring program for new teachers to cover the topics of enhancing teacher-parent relationships.
2. Teachers fill out a "Positive Phone Calls" sheet every week. These are kept on file at the high school and junior high school. This encourages positive interaction with parents.

Based on these evaluation findings, what changes do we want to make to our parent and family engagement policy for next year?

1. We need to get more training in PowerSchool and the available data that parents can access regarding their child's grades, behavior, and lessons.
2. We need to continue to update the school website with relevant information for parents.