

Taliaferro County School District

Parent and Family Engagement Policy Plan

2018 - 2019
Revised: July 18, 2018
557 Broad Street
Crawfordville, GA 30631
Phone: (706) 456-2575
Fax: (706) 456-2689

<http://taliaferrocounty.schoolinsites.com>

What is Family and Parent Engagement?

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 1116 of the ESEA



About Taliaferro County School Parent and Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Success

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Taliaferro County School District receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a) (2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Georgia Department of Education.

The Taliaferro County School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members 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 and family members of participating children.

Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA 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 in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The Taliaferro County School District will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

- *Taliaferro County School will host an Annual Federal Programs meeting at the beginning of the new school year.*
- *At the meeting, parents and stakeholders will be informed about federal programs (operations, budget, requirements, etc.) and their input will be solicited to develop the annual district-wide/school Parent Involvement Plan (PIP), School Improvement Plan (SIP), School Compact, etc.*
- *The Parental Involvement Plan is posted on the district website and printed copies are available in the Parent Resource Center. A recommendation form is also available for parent input.*
- *Surveys will be completed after parent workshops*
- *Updates will be given and parental input will be solicited at each of the school's scheduled PTA and school board meetings.*
- *Flyers and surveys will be sent home offering parents the opportunity to submit their thoughts and recommendations.*
- *TCS will request a volunteer parent representative to serve on the school improvement team.*



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Taliaferro County School District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools

in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education:

- *An annual Open House will be hosted giving parents the opportunity to meet faculty & staff members, sign the Compact, view and offer feedback on the School Improvement Plan and Parental Involvement Plan.*
- *Parent surveys will be collected to receive parent ideas about the specific areas they would like workshops or training.*
- *Teacher surveys will be collected on classroom, school, and parental supports need*
- *The Parental Involvement Liaison serves on the school leadership team*

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Taliaferro County School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in 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 evaluation will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

- *Parent surveys will be collected twice during the school year to provide guidance for the upcoming school year. Needs Improvement areas will be identified and TCS will make those areas a vital part of the next school year's plan. Parents will be given various opportunities to complete and submit their survey (at the end of the prior school year and the beginning of current school year). They will also be provided with opportunities to review the Parental Involvement Policy and provide feedback.*
- *Parent surveys will be collected from participants in parent workshops.*
- *Title I staff attends leadership team meetings, faculty meetings, school functions, board meetings, community meetings, Touching Taliaferro with Love meetings, and Healthier Together Taliaferro meetings as a means of collecting input from various stakeholders*



RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The Taliaferro County School District will involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent

of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools. The district receives a Title I allotment of less than \$500,000, and is therefore, not required to set aside 1% of Title I, Part A funds for parent and family engagement. The district does, however, set aside optional funding for parent and family engagement.

- *The district will provide workshops for parents of preschool students encouraging more involvement in the daily educational process as well as workshops to enhance parent's knowledge and ability to help students at home.*
- *The district is coordinating with the Family Connections office to provide resources for children under the age of 5 and with The Department of Labor's Jobs for Georgia Graduates (JGG) program to support students in grades 9 – 12.*

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The **Taliaferro County School District** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs: Taliaferro County School District will **insert programs such as: Head Start or other public preschool programs, parent resource centers, and other programs** that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

The district will provide workshops for parents of preschool students encouraging more involvement in the daily educational process as well as workshops to enhance parent's knowledge and ability to help students at home.

The district is coordinating with the Family Connections office to provide resources for children under the age of 5 and with The Department of Labor's Jobs for Georgia Graduates (JGG) program to support students in grades 9 – 12.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The **Taliaferro County School District** 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 training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) 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 challenging State academic 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



- *Parent workshops will be held throughout the year. Topics will include: utilizing the student information system parent portal to monitor student progress, parent-teacher collaboration, state standards and assessments (GA Milestones & GAA) financial aid, college readiness & applications, helping children with homework (including new math),*

parent-child communication. Parents will also receive educational pamphlets relating to active engagement in schools and supporting their children at home and quarterly reports from teachers detailing the standards classes will be working. An annual advisement meeting will be held with parents of students in grades 9-12 where they will be notified of the state requirements to receive a high school diploma (and all classes required over their child's 4 year high school career). Post-secondary options will be discussed and students will have various opportunities over the duration of high school to attend college and technical school tours. Fee waivers guidelines and opportunities for SAT and college admissions will be discussed.

- *Parents of elementary, middle and high school students will receive specific district-wide and state regulations in the student handbook. Monthly calendars and informational flyers will be sent home listing important dates and information related to progress reports, report cards, testing, holidays, review meetings, etc.*
- *Parents of students with disabilities (SWF) will have various opportunities to meet with school level personnel regarding adequate services for their children.*
- *An LEA parent council will be maintained to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I. Part A programs and school programs.*
- *Meetings & Workshops will be held a variety of times to accommodate parent schedules. Parents may receive individualize invitations to school workshops and events.*
- *Parent Conferences will be held at least once during the school year. Sessions will have flexible times to accommodate parent schedules.*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The **Taliaferro County School District** will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and schools by:



- *The district will provide staff and parental communication workshops and facilitate the continued success of the Parent-Teacher Organization that fosters rapport between school staff and students' parents.*
- *Flyers, surveys, and mailings will be sent home (in home language specified in the Home Language Survey). Articles will be published in the local Advocate Democrat newspaper, on the school website, marquis, and Facebook page, and Remind 101 updating parents and stakeholders of events and activities taking place at the local school. Announcements are also made at school functions/meetings and community meetings.*

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR ENGAGEMENT

Taliaferro County School District will develop training classes for teachers, parents, community members and leaders in improving the effectiveness of educating students. We will also train parents and families members to enhance the involvement of other parent by using the

Taliaferro County School Advisory Council. Regular meeting will be held with the advisory council to discuss issues and means of engaging parents to be more involved in the educational process. Open discussion sessions will be held to maximize parental involvement, engagement and participation in their child/ren class room. Parent sessions, literacy night, math night, science night, report card/progress report pickup days will be held for teachers to talk with, motivate and educate parents on how to help their child/ren with homework skill or other item of interest. Taliaferro County School District will continue to work with community organizations such as, Touching Taliaferro with Love, Chamber of Commerce, State Farm Insurance Agency, Taliaferro County Health Department, County Commissioners, Taliaferro County PTA, JGG (Jobs for Georgia Graduates), FBLA/CTAE, Taliaferro County Sheriff Department and local churches to engage parents, families and community member in the support of education at Taliaferro County School.



Taliaferro County School District will 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 training session.

- *Provide constructive activities for youth while parents are engaged through student organization such as Jobs for Georgia Graduates (JGG) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).*
- *Provide for home visits.*
- *Provide transportation for some parent/student school related meetings/training events*

Taliaferro County School District will train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

- *Implement a parent mentor program where parent mentors will train and reach out to other parents.*

Taliaferro County School District will maximize parental involvement and participation of parents in their child/ren's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times, conduct in-home conferences for parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.

- *Vary meeting times throughout the school year for school meetings and other activities.*
- *Implement home and community visits*

The Taliaferro County School District will adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.

- *Implement parenting classes based on strengthening strong family teen program including: Parenting pre-teens and teens; helping Move toward Adulthood, Involvement in School, Helping with Peer Pressure; and Helping Succeed in School.*
- *Work with Family Connection and New Beginnings Program in implementing early learning initiatives.*
- *Implement mentoring program with the help of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to help encourage and motivate students to excel with the help of parents.*

ADOPTION

This LEA parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by November 1, 2018.

This policy was adopted by the Taliaferro County School District on Aug 20, 2018 and will be in effect for the period of the 2018-2019 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating children in Title I, Part A on or before November 1, 2018.

Allen B. Fort, Supt
(Signature of Authorized Official)

Aug 20, 2018
(Date)