



CLEBURNE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2020-2021

Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy (Sec. 1116 (2)) Sec. 1116(a)(2)(A))

- A. Describe how the Local Education will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).**

Each school conducts their own Parent and Family Engagement meeting at the beginning of the school year as a way to introduce the parents to what it means to be a Title I school, what the parent's responsibility is, what the student's responsibility is and what the school's responsibility is in the education process of the student. It is the policy of Cleburne County Schools to promote Parent and Family Engagement and their participation in the education of their students. The parent or guardian should be an active participant in assisting the student to achieve high levels in core academic subjects, meet challenging State academic standards and if necessary attain English proficiency. Programs, activities and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents and families of participating students. Parents and guardians should be involved in the annual review Of programs within each school. Meetings with parents and guardians should be offered in a flexible manner as needed. Parents and guardians should be provided timely information concerning programs offered by their student's school.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(B))

- A. Describe how the Local Education Agency will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency 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.**

The LEA provides Blackboard for all schools to use to aid in contacting parents and guardians concerning anything that is going on at the school. Blackboard will contact the parent or guardian by phone, text and/or email. Each school plans parent and family engagement activities depending on the needs of the students within the building. Local businesses and organizations occasionally give door prizes to the schools to give parents and guardians who participate in these organized activities that take place at the school. Some of the local businesses sponsor meals to entice parents to attend the activities with their entire family.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(C))

- A. Describe how the Local Education Agency will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.**

The LEA will coordinate going out into the Communities to engage parents at local festivals, ball games, events and parades to integrate academics with community involvement. The parents and

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(F)

- F. Describe how the Local Education Agency will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.**

There is at least one parent representative invited from each school to be on the Parent Advisory Committee which has input toward developing, revising and reviewing the parent and family engagement plan each year. Administrators recruit parents or guardians to assist the Federal Programs Coordinator, Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator and Special Education Director at the district level with the parent and family engagement plan.

In order to build capacity for Parent and Family Engagement, the Local Education Agency will ensure effective involvement of parents and will support a partnership among the schools involved, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the LEA shall:

- G. Describe how it will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.**

All students in Cleburne County Schools have Home Portals set up within PowerSchools INOW — which is the school's computer operating system. If the parent or guardian has internet access, he or she can log in to their student's account to view attendance, grades and discipline. For the parent or guardian who does not have internet access, all schools have computers for parents to use or they can request this information to be sent home by their student by the school's guidance counselor at any time. Cleburne County Schools welcomes parents and guardians to do conferences with teachers as long as there is advanced notice so the teacher's classes can be covered.

- H. Describe how it will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.**

The LEA will coordinate going out into the communities to engage parents at local festivals, ball games, events and parades to integrate academics with community involvement. The parents and guardians will be given fliers and packets with parent and family engagement strategies that can be incorporated into their everyday home life from the District. Literacy training, how and when to use technology and math training opportunities will be included on these fliers and handouts. The Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator will provide the information for literacy and math training. The Technology Coordinator will provide the information for the technology opportunities.

- I. Describe how it will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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 the school.**

Parents have given great insight as to how to better involve them as a whole - provide child care during functions, continue to use Blackboard to remind parents and guardians of events, include parents in the planning of events at the schools and continue to sponsor special events at the school for different family members like Muffins with Mom, Doughnuts with Dad, Grandparents Day and Snacks with Siblings.

- J. Describe how it will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.**

The LEA will coordinate going out into the communities to engage parents at local festivals, ball games, events and parades to integrate academics with community involvement. The parents and guardians will be given fliers and packets with parent and family engagement strategies that can be incorporated into their everyday home life from the District, Preschool parents and guardians are required to go on all field trips with their student since preschool students can not ride a bus - transportation has to be in private cars. Weekly newsletters from the preschool classrooms are sent home giving examples of what parents and guardians can do within the home to be more involved in the preschool student's education.

Parents and guardians are always welcome as volunteers within our schools as long as he or she has met with the administrator prior to volunteering. There are set guidelines all volunteers must follow.

- K. Describe how it will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.**

All newsletters, personal parent notes and announcements are sent home in weekly folders on students in kindergarten through seventh grade. These communications are sent home in English and if necessary the parent or guardian's native language as well. Communication with parents or guardians-Of students in grades eight through twelve are given to students to bring home or emailed to the student's email address. Again, communication is sent in English and if necessary the parent or guardian's native language as well. If the communication is general to-everyone, announcements are posted on district and school websites as Well as district and school Facebook pages in multiple languages.

- L. Describe how it will ensure provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.**

The schools and district have budgeted family and parental engagement money to ensure parents and guardians are supported and included within the school setting.

- M. Describe how the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.**

Parents have made suggestions of things they would like to see implemented within the schools that have been taken into account by the principals and LEA to add training for staff to see that some of these projects are implemented. Each school will use data gathered through their needs assessment and the individual PLP's to determine the professional development needs. The Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator compiles information from all participating parties to develop the District Professional Development Plan. The LEA will be able to support the training through Title I, Title II and Title V-B funds.

- N. Describe how the LEA may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.**

The Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator will provide literacy training with the aid of the district's instructional coaches twice a year. Each school's counseling office will provide parents and guardians a list of resources if he or she is in need of getting their GED.

- O. Describe how the LEA may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.**

Child care is provided at the training sessions by each hosting school at no cost. If a parent is in need of transportation, the school administrator will contact the Federal Programs Coordinator to assist in arranging transportation.

- P. Describe how the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.**

The Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator with the assistance of the instructional coaches creates quarterly newsletters to all parents in the school district. The newsletters are posted on the district and school websites with links on Facebook that will take the parent or guardian to the school website in order to access the information.

- Q. Describe how the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.**

Conferences and meetings are arranged at the convenience of the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian is unable to make it to the school, either a phone conference is done with the parent or guardian on speaker phone or the necessary individuals along with the school resource officer will make a home visit to conduct the meeting.

- R. Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.**

Cleburne County Schools has adopted an approach in which teachers and central office staff attend local events such as parades, festivals, and locally supported events. School representatives have been engaging with parents in comfortable family type settings in an effort to promote collaboration for education. The philosophy is to reverse the idea that parents should come to school and have school reps attend community events. Tables with information about school events will be set up to promote the school system as a whole. One-on-one conversations with parents have been taking place as a way to improve involvement at individual school locations. Due to the pandemic, CCS will have to take this approach one day at a time depending on events and gatherings.

- S. Describe how the LEA may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.**

Cleburne County has a district-wide advisory council with an administrator and parent from each school. The members of this council advise the district on all matters related to parents and guardians within the school system.

T. Describe how the LEA may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

Businesses and organizations from. Cleburne County has been invited to be a part of the district-wide advisory council, but only one member has participated. The LEA will continue to invite and hope for more participation.

Sec. 1116(f)

U. Describe how the Local Education Agency, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, parent and family members of homeless children, and parents and family members of immigrant children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

All students' reports and communication are distributed in English and Spanish if applicable. If a parent or guardian needs the communication in another language, it will be provided in that language. Parents and guardians who may need another service in order to participate in family and parental engagement activities shall be provided that service upon request.

This LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by __Sign-In Sheets__.
The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before _October 31, 2020_.

Beth Clanton
PLAN APPROVED BY (Person or Entity)

9/24/20
DATE OF APPROVAL