

## **Caddo Parish Public Schools Districtwide Parental Engagement Policy**

**The Caddo Parish School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:**

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the engagement of parents in all of its schools with Title 1, Part A programs, consistent with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1116(a) of the ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1116(a) of the ESSA.
- The school district will incorporate this districtwide parental engagement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESSA.
- In carrying out the Title 1, Par 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 and parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title 1, Par A, developed under section 1112 of the ESSA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title 1, Part A school in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title 1, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will be governed by statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title 1 schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance.
- The Caddo Parish School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its districtwide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESAA:
  - Involve parents in the development of a written parent involvement policy at monthly Family and Community Engagement Parent Advisory Council meetings and Action Team for Partnership meetings.
  - Provide parents with the opportunity to complete surveys and evaluations quarterly at the Family and Community Engagement Parent Advisory Council Meeting.
  - Comments and suggestions taken from surveys and evaluations will be used to improve the plan.
  - Revise the plan, if necessary, based on the annual evaluation.

- The Caddo Parish School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of ESSA:
  - Provide opportunities for parents to be involved in parent meetings in each school community to oversee planning and implementation of programs provided through ESSA.
  - Provide opportunities for parents to serve on district committees (example, School Calendar Committee, Discipline Committee, and Pupil Progression Plan Committee).
  
- The Caddo Parish Public School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title 1, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
  - In-service training on effective communication with parents
  - Staff development (content-specific professional development)
  - High stakes testing
  - Parent workshops
  - Family Literacy
  - Technology
  - Discipline
  - Home visits
  - School Parent Contacts
  - Computer Literacy classes
  - Mobile community workshops
  - Make & Take Workshops
  
- The Caddo Parish Public School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following programs: Head Start, and state- operated preschool programs by:
  - In-service training
  - Professional development
  - Parent participation in parish wide parent workshops
  - Resource and materials available through the district Parent Resource Center
  
- The Caddo Parish Public School District 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 1, 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 disable, 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 about its parental involvement policy 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.

- Annual parent surveys at all districtwide meetings
  - Parent meetings and workshop evaluation forms will be distributed to parents at each parent meeting. The evaluation forms contain an area for comments, suggestions and requests by parents. The evaluations are reviewed following each meeting and suggestions are relayed to appropriate personnel.
- The Caddo Parish Public School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, by undertaking the actions described below.
    - A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title 1, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –
      - the state's academic content standards,
      - the state's student academic achievement standards,
      - the state's and local academic assessment including alternate assessments
      - the requirements of Title 1 Part A,
      - how to monitor their child's progress,
      - how to work with educators
      - meetings and workshops held throughout the school year
      - resources available for check-out from the district Parent Resource Center
      - monthly school newsletters
      - email, personal and phone conferences
    - B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental engagement through
      - parent informational workshops
      - resources available for check-out from the district Parent Resource Center
      - Take Home Computer program
      - Family Leadership Training
      - personal and phone conferences
    - C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil 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 of parents, and to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools through

- professional development (content-specific)
  - in-service training (communicating with parents)
  - ideas staff can use to promote parental involvement newsletters
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental engagement programs and activities with Head Start, the Parents As Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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 through
- professional development
  - In-service training
  - parent participation in parish wide parent workshops
  - Parent Resource Center Make & Take workshops
  - The Parent Institute Success Web Content
- E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, (including alternative formats upon requests, and to the extent practicable) in a language the parents can understand.
- *The Parent Institute School Success Web*;
  - newsletters monitored b School Directors of Performance;
  - sample newsletters kept on file in the Title 1 office;
  - translation of memos from the schools and school system as necessary (ESL Center);
  - assistance to parents interpreting special services to meet the needs of LEP students; and
  - newsletters, parent communication, etc., in alternative languages as needed.
- F. The school district, in consultation with its parents, will build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement by
- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators to improve in the effectiveness of that training;
  - maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education, by arranging school meetings at a variety of time;
  - establishing a districtwide Parent Advisory Council,
  - adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental engagement; and
  - providing other reasonable support for parental engagement activities under section 1116 as parents may request.

Parents in Louisiana may contact the Parental Information and Resource Center for further information concerning Every Student Succeeds Act and how to assist their children in meeting its requirements.