

Fort Payne City Schools Parental Involvement Plan 2017-2018

The Fort Payne City School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

The Fort Payne City 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, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those 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.

The Fort Payne City School District will incorporate this LEA parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 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 and, 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 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 one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory 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—

That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

That 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; and

The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

The Fort Payne City School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

- At least two members of the Consolidated Federal Programs Committee will be parents with children in the Title I Program. These parents will serve as a point-of-contact for other parents, and will work with the local school to ensure that parents receive information in a timely manner. They will have input into the development of this Plan.
- The school will conduct a survey at least once annually and the results will be used to help develop and revise this plan.

The Fort Payne City School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Encourage the school to form a PTO, PTA or other parent groups that can be used to respond to issues of interest to parents.
- Require schools to provide parents with current information regarding school policies, and practices.
- Require schools to provide parents with current information regarding students and school performance data. Solicit parent input and feedback.

- Schools will train staff and parents to be collaborative partners sharing in decision-making in such areas as plan, curriculum, budget, school reform, school improvement and safety.

The Fort Payne City School District 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:

- The Director of Federal Programs or his designee will work with Principals to provide oversight, coordination of services and technical assistance in the areas covered under this section.
- When applicable the District will conduct workshops and/or provide in-service and other support at the request of Title I funded schools.
- The District will bring in State Department resources on an as-needed basis.
- The District's advisory team will be utilized as a resource to help review, monitor and discuss parent involvement issues.

The Fort Payne City School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Title I, Technology, Special Education, EL, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters and the Extended Day Program, by:

- Using a Consolidated Federal Programs Committee
- Employing a translator as needed
- Promoting the EDP program
- Promoting the HIPYPY program
- Help coordinate a registration day in the spring for incoming students and parents to visit and tour the elementary school, as well as register for the upcoming school year.

The Fort Payne City 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 plan 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 about its parental involvement plan 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.

- A survey or questionnaire will be administered to parents as a part of the evaluation process. The Principal of each Title I school will be responsible for data collection and the tabulation of results. The survey will be conducted and results published for review.

The Fort Payne City School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, 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, through the following activities specifically described below:

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, 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 College and Career Ready Standards,**
 - the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,**
 - the requirements of Part A,**
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and**
 - how to work with educators:**
- Schools will conduct workshop(s) and/or parent meetings on content standards, achievement and assessment as needed. Schools will be required to address these topics at one or more of the following events: PTO, Open House or Parent Conferences.

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 involvement, by:

- Publishing a web site
- Budgeting funds at the school level for purchasing materials
- Encouraging schools to offer parent workshops/meetings/events.

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 in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Providing collaborative partners training to teachers and staff with a focus on shared decision-making in areas such as planning, curriculum, budget, school reform, school improvement and safety.

The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, 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, by:

- Employing a school nurse;
- Distributing parenting information at parent meetings; and
- Hosting awareness activities at school.

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 request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- The school will have available an employee to translate or assist in verbally communicating with parent as necessary.
- To the extent practicable, the School will send home notices and newsletters in both English and Spanish.
- To the extent practicable, the School will conduct all meetings in both English and Spanish.
- The District will use the State Department's online program as needed to ensure that parents receive documents in the appropriate format.

This Parental Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Advisory Committee signature page on file.

This plan was adopted/approved by the Fort Payne City Board of Education at their June, 2015 meeting and will be in effect for the period of three years (FY2016-FY2018). The school district will make available this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children.

Jim Cunningham

 Superintendent