



**Parent and Family Engagement Plan  
Guntersville City Schools  
2018-2019**

**19. Sec. 1112 (b) (7) - Describe the strategy the local educational agency will use to implement effective parent and family engagement under section 1116. (This question will be answered in the written policy below).**

**A. Sec. 1116 (a) (2)(A))**

**Describe how the LEA 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).**

Parents will have the opportunity to provide feedback through surveys and parent meetings.

Parents will be part of the District and School Level Advisory Councils to review and revise the Title I and Parent Involvement Plans.

Parents will be informed of their right and the procedure to disagree with the Title I and Parent Involvement Plans, which will be sent home with all students at the first of each school year and posted on school and district websites.

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

**Describe how the LEA 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 Guntersville City Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Community Education and Local Preschool Programs by:

- Planning parent activities and learning opportunities cooperatively.
- Plan at least yearly training meetings with local preschool program teachers and administrators.
- Invite local preschool teachers and Community Education teachers to local professional development activities when applicable.
- Coordinate with OSR funded Pre-K program and regular program to provide parent involvement that improves student transition to kindergarten.

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

**Describe how the LEA 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 program.**

Guntersville City Schools 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/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 policy/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.

Each year all parents will be given a survey to complete about parent involvement in each school. These results will be tallied and used to revise the LEA and School Parent Involvement and Title Plans.

Individual conferences with parents will be scheduled and documented. Information from these conferences will be used to revise the LEA and School Parent Involvement and Title I Plans.

Small group meetings with EL families will be held to answer questions and inform them of student progress. An interpreter will be present to make sure families are comfortable and able to understand information.

**D. Sec. 1116 (a) (2) (D)**

**Describe how the LEA will conduct with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying:**

**(1) Barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (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 Guntersville City Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

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- Each Title I School will have an Annual Meeting with parents to discuss the content standards of each grade and the individual achievement of each student.
- A system-wide parent meeting to present and explain district and state curriculum and assessment information will be scheduled in the fall. Test data will be sent home to all parents who are unable to attend the meeting with an easy to read brochure explaining the information.
- Newsletters, articles, information on websites, notes, and calendars will be sent home to help parents help their children and monitor their progress.
- Parent Meetings and Conferences will be scheduled at all schools at varying times to help parents become more educated about their children's academic progress and school expectations.
- Community Education in conjunction with schools will schedule events and provide online tutorials on various topics to foster parent involvement.
- Teachers and administrators will continue to attend professional development sessions and purchase literature to learn how to better implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
- Schools will coordinate parent meetings and teacher trainings with Community Education Department and local and district preschool programs.
- School information will be translated, to the extent possible, in a language parents can understand. If possible, an interpreter will be available at parent conferences and meetings so that parents can understand and feel comfortable. Transact will be available for translating common forms used in schools.
- Language Line will be used for translation services.

**(ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers:**

Guntersville City Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- Each Title I School will have an Annual Meeting with parents to discuss the content standards of each grade and the individual achievement of each student.
- A system-wide parent meeting to present and explain district and state curriculum and assessment information will be scheduled in the fall. Test data will be sent home to all parents who are unable to attend the meeting with an easy to read brochure explaining the information.
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- Schools will coordinate parent meetings and teacher trainings with Community Education Department and local and district preschool programs.
- School information will be translated, to the extent possible, in a language parents can understand. If possible, an interpreter will be available at parent conferences and meetings so that parents can understand and feel comfortable. Transact will be available for translating common forms used in schools.
- Language Line will be used for translation services.

**(iii) strategies to support successful school and family interactions**

- Each Title I School will have an Annual Meeting with parents to discuss the content standards of each grade and the individual achievement of each student.
- A system-wide parent meeting to present and explain district and state curriculum and assessment information will be scheduled in the fall. Test data will

be sent home to all parents who are unable to attend the meeting with an easy to read brochure explaining the information.

- Newsletters, articles, information on websites, notes, and calendars will be sent home to help parents help their children and monitor their progress.
- Parent Meetings and Conferences will be scheduled at all schools at varying times to help parents become more educated about their children's academic progress and school expectations.
- Community Education in conjunction with schools will schedule events and provide online tutorials on various topics to foster parent involvement.
- Teachers and administrators will continue to attend professional development sessions and purchase literature to learn how to better implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
- Schools will coordinate parent meetings and teacher trainings with Community Education Department and local and district preschool programs.
- School information will be translated, to the extent possible, in a language parents can understand. If possible, an interpreter will be available at parent conferences and meetings so that parents can understand and feel comfortable. Transact will be available for translating common forms used in schools.
- Language Line will be used for translation services.

#### **E. Sec. 1116 (a) (2) (E))**

**Describe how the LEA will use the findings of such an evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116 (2) (D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.**

Parents will be invited to be a part of the Federal Programs Advisory Council. This council will make revisions as needed on the LEA Title Plan and the LEA Parent Involvement Plan and Policy which constitute the Consolidated Plan.

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

**Describe how the LEA 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 serve 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.**

Parents will be invited to be a part of the Federal Programs Advisory Council. This council will make revisions as needed on the LEA Title Plan and the LEA Parent Involvement Plan and Policy which will now comprise the Consolidated Plan. Additionally, each school has a School Council that has parents who participate. Parents also participate in the Title I Budget Committee.

**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.**

1. Materials and training to help parents help their children will be provided.
2. Teachers and administrators will be educated on how to reach out and communicate to parents.
3. Information will be sent home in a language and format that parents, to the extent possible, can understand.
4. Interpreters, to the extent possible, will be provided for parent conferences and parent meetings.
5. School-Parent-Student Compacts will be used to outline individual responsibilities and to explain how this partnership can result in increased student achievement.
6. Literacy information will be shared with community members in news articles and on websites.
7. Create an atmosphere and expectation of involvement among all parents.
8. Provide opportunities to increase the capacity of parents and community to be involved such as Data Nights, Sweets & Songs, GES grade-level productions, and CES grade-level productions.
9. Develop school and district advisory committees.
10. Schedule a variety of parent / community events, focusing on improving student success.
11. Develop communication tools to encourage stakeholder involvement.
12. Require parents K-8 to sign a stakeholder compact, promising to be involved. Parent conferences will be scheduled at each school.

**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.**

1. Materials and training to help parents help their children will be provided.
2. Teachers and administrators will be educated on how to reach out and communicate to parents.
3. Information will be sent home in a language and format that parents, to the extent possible, can understand.
4. Interpreters, to the extent possible, will be provided for parent conferences and parent meetings.
5. School-Parent-Student Compacts will be used to outline individual responsibilities and to explain how this partnership can result in increased student achievement.
6. Literacy information will be shared with community members in news articles and on websites.
7. Create an atmosphere and expectation of involvement among all parents.
8. Provide opportunities to increase the capacity of parents and community to be involved.
9. School Councils and district advisory committees will be offered to parents to include them in understanding district initiatives.
10. Community Suppers and the annual Beans and Greens event will encourage parents to meet school personnel at community centers and at school lunchrooms throughout the year.
11. Schedule a variety of parent / community events, focusing on improving student success.
12. Develop communication tools to encourage stakeholder involvement.
13. Require parents K-8 to sign a stakeholder compact, promising to be involved.
14. Parent conferences will be scheduled at each school.

**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.**

Through meetings with principals, school counselors, school leadership teams, and teacher data team meetings, ideas to increase parental engagement will be shared. Once each quarter, parents are invited to attend Coffee and Conversation with district-level staff to share concerns, compliments, and offer suggestions for improvement. Frequent communications between school and home including various social media efforts help keep our parents as equal partners in school events as well as their student's progress.

**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.**

Guntersville City Schools will plan parent activities and learning opportunities cooperatively. GCS will plan at least yearly training meetings with local preschool program teachers and administrators, and invite local preschool teachers and Community Education teachers to local professional development activities when applicable. GCS will coordinate with OSR funded Pre-K program and regular program to provide parent involvement that improves student transition to kindergarten.

**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.**

1. Materials and training to help parents help their children will be provided.
2. Teachers and administrators will be educated on how to reach out and communicate to parents.
3. Information will be sent home in a language and format that parents, to the extent possible, can understand.
4. Interpreters, to the extent possible, will be provided for parent conferences and parent meetings.
5. School-Parent-Student Compacts will be used to outline individual responsibilities and to explain how this partnership can result in increased student achievement.

6. Literacy information will be shared with community members in news articles and on websites.

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

1. Each Title I School will have an Annual Meeting with parents to discuss the content standards of each grade and the individual achievement of each student.
2. A system-wide parent meeting to present and explain district and state curriculum and assessment information will be scheduled in the fall. Test data will be sent home to all parents who are unable to attend the meeting with an easy to read brochure explaining the information.
3. Newsletters, articles, information on websites, notes, and calendars will be sent home to help parents help their children and monitor their progress.
4. Parent Meetings and Conferences will be scheduled at all schools at varying times to help parents become more educated about their children's academic progress and school expectations.
5. Community Education in conjunction with schools will schedule events and provide online tutorials on various topics to foster parent involvement.
6. Teachers and administrators will continue to attend professional development sessions and purchase literature to learn how to better implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
7. Schools will coordinate parent meetings and teacher trainings with Community Education Department and local and district preschool programs.
8. School information will be translated, to the extent possible, in a language parents can understand. If possible, an interpreter will be available at parent conferences and meetings so that parents can understand and feel comfortable. Transact will be available for translating common forms used in schools.

**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.**

1. Parents will have the opportunity to provide feedback through surveys and parent meetings.
2. Parents will be part of the District and School Level Advisory Councils to review and revise the Title I and Parent Involvement Plans.

3. Parents will be informed of their right and the procedure to disagree with the Title I and Parent Involvement Plans, which will be sent home with all students at the first of each school year and posted on school and district websites.

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

Guntersville City Schools will use Title I funds to increase literacy training by paying for high-quality professional development in literacy for our instructional coaches as well as our ELA teachers. Professional development libraries will be developed in order to for Literacy Book Studies to be completed by school faculties.

**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.**

Guntersville City Schools, to the extent possible, will pay reasonable expenses for parents to attend local parental involvement activities. Also, through our local funds, we are able to do Community Suppers where we go into low income housing developments where our families live and have dinner together once each semester. Using local community development centers is a way to keep costs at a minimum.

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

Guntersville City Schools has as a long term goal the establishment of a EdCamp-style event for parents. We want parents to meet one another and learn from each other. These informational sessions will help students and their families be more successful and comfortable in the school environment.

**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.**

Schools meetings in Guntersville City Schools have taken place at a variety of times. We meet during the day, after school, and during evening hours in order to accommodate all parents and their varied schedules. These different timed meetings has increased parental involvement.

The Guntersville City Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

1. Each Title I School will have an Annual Meeting with parents to discuss the content standards of each grade and the individual achievement of each student.
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6. Teachers and administrators will continue to attend professional development sessions and purchase literature to learn how to better implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
7. Schools will coordinate parent meetings and teacher trainings with Community Education Department and local and district preschool programs.
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**R. Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.**

Guntersville City Schools will explore the possibility of adding a home visitation program to our district next year. We believe adding this service to our youngest learners' families will increase their participation in parental involvement activities.

The Guntersville City Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

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8. School information will be translated in a language parents can understand. When needed, translation services will be available at parent conferences and meetings so that parents can understand and feel comfortable. Transact will be available for translating common forms used in schools.

**S. Describe how the LEA may establish a districtwide Parental Engagement Committee to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.**

Guntersville City Schools has a Parental Involvement Committee that serves in an advisory role to help create the Consolidated Plan, the EL Plan, etc. Additionally, this council serves as an advisory group for district leadership and school administrators. Parents from each school and student ethnic groups are included.

The Guntersville City Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

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

As needed, Guntersville City Schools will include community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities when certain needs are established and expertise is needed in a specific area. Additionally, Guntersville City Schools has partnered with the Heart of the Valley YMCA in providing after school and summer programming.

**Sec. 1116(f)**

**U. Describe how the LEA will use the findings of such evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116 (2)(D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary the parental and family engagement policies described in this section:**

The Guntersville City Schools 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/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 policy/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.

1. Each year all parents will be given a survey to complete about parent involvement in each school. These results will be tallied and used to revise the LEA and School Parent Involvement and Title Plans.
2. Individual conferences with parents will be scheduled and documented. Information from these conferences will be used to revise the LEA and School Parent Involvement and Title I Plans.
3. Small group meetings with EL families will be held to answer questions and inform them of student progress. An interpreter will be present to make sure families are comfortable and able to understand information.