



## **School Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

***Worth County High School***

***School Year 2021 - 2022***

***Insert Revision Date 09/22/2021***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Worth County High School 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(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

### **Worth County High School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:**

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

**Parent and Family Engagement 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 ESSA

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

**JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Worth County High School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

- Invite all parents to participate in the revising of the WCHS Parent and Family Engagement Policy at the Spring input meeting.
- Distribute the WCHS Parent and Engagement Policy to all parents in the following ways: paper copies sent home with students, school website, school Facebook page, and Peachjar. Additional copies will also be available in the WCHS Media Center.
- When parents are unsatisfied with the Title I School Improvement Plan, the complaints will be documented and reported to Melissa Edwards (Principal), Kim Perrin (WCHS School Improvement Specialist), and Felecia Cook (Federal Programs Director).
- Request input from parents/guardians about the WCHS Parent and Family Engagement Policy periodically by way of One Call Now, parent group emails, handouts, school website, school Facebook page, Peachjar, and Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Request input from WCHS teachers.
- Invite all parents to participate in the revising of the LEA District Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy when the input meeting is scheduled.
- Contact information is included on all school related handouts and school website, so that parents may contact with any questions, concerns or to schedule meetings.
- Surveys with results published.

**ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Worth County High School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- All parents will be invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Title I Meeting through One Call Now, parent group emails, school website, school Facebook page, Peachjar, and Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- The school will provide information and explain the requirements of Title I and the rights of parents.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Worth County High School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs.
  - Post on the One Call Now, parent group emails, paper form, school website, school Facebook page, Peachjar, and Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
  - Schedule an annual Title I meeting within the first quarter of school starting.
  - Distribute a written school compact and parental involvement policy to all parents (parent group emails, paper form, school website, school Facebook page, Peachjar, and Infinite Campus Parent Portal). Additional copies will also be available in the WCHS Media Center.
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
  - Will offer meetings on various days and at various times of the day to accommodate parent schedules.
  - Meeting notes upon request will be shared with any parent not able to attend.
  - Childcare is not provided, however, parents and guardians are welcome to bring children to parent meetings if needed.
  - Worth County School District has a Social Worker on staff to help parents and families interact with the school system. Transportation may be available if it is deemed necessary.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, will be 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:
  - Worth County High School will provide information to parents in a comprehensible and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
  - Worth County High School has a Title III English Language Liaison (ELL) on staff for assistance if needed.

## **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Worth County High School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the

means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- Invite all parents to participate in the revising of the Worth County High School School-Parent Compact at the Spring input meeting.
- Request input from parents/guardians by way of school website, school Facebook page, handouts, and parent email group.
- Request input from Worth County High School teachers.
- Request input from Worth County High School students.
- Schedule meetings at parent's convenience.
- Update/revise compact periodically.
- Ask for input at school functions.

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If applicable, Worth County High School will take the following actions to 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 parent and family engagement is spent by:

- The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator offers each parent/guardian the opportunity to give feedback of the 1% reservation of funds by requesting input from parents/guardians on the Spring survey.
- Currently, the 1% reservation of funds is used to pay the supplements of each Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator.
- Parents/guardians that have ideas on other ways the 1% reservation of funds should be spent, should contact Katie Hill at [khill@worthschools.net](mailto:khill@worthschools.net).

### **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Worth County High School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement 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 by:

- Inviting other programs to join our school for workshops, career days, and transition nights.
- Inviting other programs to come tour Worth County High School.
- Holding transitional tours and meetings for students in the spring of each year to support school orientation from one building to the next, including 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night, Dual Enrollment and Work-Based Learning.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Worth County High School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's 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
  - Strategies parents can use to support their child's academic achievements
  - Partnering with teachers to support their child's academic achievement
  - Provide parents with individual student academic assessment results and interpretations of those results.

*Curriculum:*

- Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) utilizes the state standards adopted for Georgia to set the standard for Kindergarten through High School, to prepare students for success in college or the 21st Century workplace. More information can be found at <https://www.georgiastandards.org>.
- The performance standard incorporates the content standard, which simply tells the teacher what a student is expected to know (i.e., what concepts he or she is expected to master). Additionally, it adds to these concepts by providing three additional items: suggested tasks, sample student work, and teacher commentary on that work. (<https://www.georgiastandards.org>)

*Forms of Assessment:*

- Math Inventory
- Reading Inventory
- Georgia Milestones Assessment

**BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Worth County High School will provide training to 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 by:

- Provide ongoing professional learning.
- Reminding Worth County High School teachers frequently of the importance of communicating with parents about their student's behavior, attendance, and grades.

- Having contact information readily available on all handouts and documents sent home either by paper form or digitally in case parents/guardians have questions or concerns about the information or material.
- To provide information in a format, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand.
- To respond to parent requests for parent and family engagement requests.

Worth County High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- FASFA workshop for parents
- Career Fair
- Advanced Placement (AP) parent/student orientation
- Dual Enrollment parent/student orientation
- Blood Drive
- Volunteering
- CTAE Advisory Council
- Parent information sessions regarding School Improvement initiatives (ex. Lexiles and Quantiles).

## **DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

### **POLICY COMPONENTS**

***NOTE TO SCHOOLS:*** *The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESSA.*

*Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) school parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:*

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

***NOTE TO THE SCHOOLS:*** *Describe how each discretionary item checked above will be implemented.*