



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Worth County Primary School
2018-2019

Revised: 10/31/2018

Dear WCPS Parents/Guardians:

Your participation in your child's education is important to us. Because of this, we have developed a School Parent and Family Engagement Policy for our school. This policy describes how the school will carry out the parent and family engagement requirements to ensure effective engagement of parents and families and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. We value your engagement and urge you to take the time to read this policy.

Federal law requires us to distribute our School Parent and Family Engagement Policy to parents and families. Please sign the form below and return ONLY this page to your child's teacher, so that we can be sure you received this important information.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at (229)776-8660 (Ext. 1554) or at (229)463-3128.

Sincerely,

Tonya L. Singletary

Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator

Worth County Primary School

Please sign and return to WCPS.

I have received and read the Worth County Primary School 2018-2019 School Parent and Family Engagement Policy described on the attached pages.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Student's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Grade _____



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In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Worth County Primary School receives Title 1, 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 Primary 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 school wide 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 school wide 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 Primary School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title 1 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 WCPS Parent & Family Engagement Policy at the Spring input meeting.
- Request input from parents/guardians about the WCPS Parent & Family Engagement Policy periodically by way of newsletters, handouts, call-outs, school website, Facebook, and Remind.
- Request input from WCPS teachers.
- Invite all parents to participate in the revising of the District Parental & Family Engagement Policy when that input meeting is scheduled.
- The policy will be shared in the following ways: paper copies sent home with students, school website, Facebook, paper copies available in the Front Office.
- When parents are unsatisfied with the Title I Schoolwide Plan, the complaints will be documented and reported to Jared Worthy (Principal), Kim Pritchard (Assistant Principal), Jenny Worn (WCPS School Improvement Specialist), and Christie Foerster (Federal Programs Director).
- 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
- Make known the dates and times of School Council Meetings being held at Worth County Primary School so that parents can make plans to attend.
- Surveys with results published.

Annual Title 1 Meeting

Worth County Primary 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 1 program, the nature of the Title 1 program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the school wide plan, and the school-parent compact:

- All parents were invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Title 1 Meeting that was held at Worth County Primary School at 5:30 on Thursday, September 13, 2018, through newsletters, handouts, website, Facebook, Remind, marquis, and call-outs.
- The school provided information and explained the requirements of Title 1 and the rights of parents.

Communications

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

- Timely information about the Title 1 programs
 - Post on school website, newsletters, Facebook, call-outs and Remind.
 - Schedule an annual Title 1 meeting within the first quarter of school beginning.
 - Distribute a written school compact and parental involvement policy to all parents (paper form, Facebook and school website).
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title 1 funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
 - Will offer workshops, trainings, and informational meetings on various days and at various times of the day to accommodate parent schedules.
 - Will offer handouts and agendas/information discussed at workshops, trainings, and informational meetings to parents/guardians who are unable to attend.
 - 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, 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:
 - Information will be provided to parents in a comprehensible and uniform format including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

School-Parent Compact

Worth County Primary 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 WCPS School-Parent Compact at the Spring input meeting.
- Request input from parents/guardians by way of newsletters, website, Facebook, handouts and call-outs.
- Request input from WCPS teachers.
- Request input from WCPS students.
- Schedule meetings at parent's convenience.

- Update/revise compact periodically.
- Ask for input during school functions.

Reservation of Funds

If applicable, Worth County Primary School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title 1, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title 1, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:

- The Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator offers each parent/guardian the opportunity to give feedback of the 1% reservation of funds by requesting input from parents/guardians.
*This information has been included in the 1st 9-Weeks 2018-2019 newsletter and 2nd 9-Weeks 2018-2019 newsletter, and it will be included in the 3rd and 4th 9-Weeks 2018-2019 newsletters. All newsletters are sent home in a paper form and posted on the school website and Facebook. It will be included in the annual survey that will be sent home in the spring of 2019. The survey will be sent home in a paper form and will be included on the school website and Facebook.

Coordination of Services

Worth County Primary 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, family learning nights, and transition nights.
- Inviting other programs to come tour Worth County Primary School.
- Inviting other programs to use the Parent & Family Resource Center for educational resources to be used at home.
- Notifying other programs about the Computer Lab that can be used by the public located at the Worth County Board of Education.

Building Capacity of Parents

Worth County Primary 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
 - **Curriculum**
 - **Georgia Standards of Excellence, grades K-2**
Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) are a set of core standards for kindergarten through high school in all content areas. The standards provide a consistent framework to prepare students for success in college and/or the 21st century workplace.

The GSE for English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies will ensure that all Georgia students have an equal access and opportunity to master the skills and knowledge needed for success beyond high school. Effective implementation of the GPS requires support on multiple fronts, including strengthening teacher content knowledge, teaching and instructional skills, and contextualized tasks for students that effectively engage 21st Century learners. The standards create a foundation to work collaboratively across states and districts, pooling resources and expertise, to create curricular tools, professional development, common assessments, and other instructional materials. (www.georgiastandards.org, 2011)

- **GELDS, Pre-K** Georgia has a long history as a leader in promoting early learning and development outcomes for children. Recently, Georgia introduced its latest set of high-quality, research-based early learning standards for children birth to age five called the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS). The GELDS promote quality learning experiences for children and address the question, "What should children from birth to age five know and be able to do?" They are a set of appropriate, attainable standards that are flexible enough to support children's individual rates of development, approaches to learning, and cultural context. The GELDS are a continuum of skills, behaviors, and concepts that children develop throughout this time of life. They are divided into age groups and serve as a framework for learning. The GELDS are aligned with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework, the GSE for K-12, and the Work Sampling System Assessment.

➤ **Forms of Assessment**

- DIBELS Next (Reading)
- I Station (Reading & Math)
- GKIDS (Kindergarten)
- ACCESS (English Language Learners)
- Grade-wide common assessments

Worth County Primary School utilizes the following universal screeners to monitor academic goals:

- **Reading - DIBELS Next & I Station**
- **Mathematics - I Station**
- **School Improvement Goals**
 1. By the end of the 2018-2019 school term all K-2 teachers will use the I Station program data to track student comprehension in order to plan instruction and interventions.
 2. By the end of the 2018-2019 school year all teachers will participate in job embedded professional learning that is relevant to best practices and student achievement.
- Materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms or copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
 - Provide a Parent & Family Resource Center.
 - Offer technology trainings for parents/guardians.

- Provide parents with computer lab access at the Worth County Board of Education during business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00-4:30).
- Host family learning nights around literacy, math, and science.
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - Provide information about Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE)
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - Provide information about applicable State and local assessments, as applicable.
 - The requirements of Title 1, Part A
 - Will present a Title 1 meeting and invite all parents to attend. (It was presented on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 5:30. Parents were notified through the newsletter, handouts, Remind, Facebook and call-outs.)
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - Will provide ways for parents to monitor their child's progress through Parent/Teacher Conferences, phone conferences, emails, agendas, progress reports, and report cards.
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child
 - Will provide ways for parents to work with educators in the monthly newsletter and during workshops and other school activities.
- Activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, online resources, Academic Parent-Teacher Team meeting, and any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to support parents in helping their student's academic success:
 - PTO Meetings
 - Parent Informational Meetings
 - Public participation in school board meetings every third Thursday of the month at the Worth County Board of Education including all called meetings
 - Hold an Annual Title 1 Meeting and invite all participating students and parents to attend.
 - Allow parents to volunteer.
 - Offer Parent/Teacher Conferences at convenient times to fit parents' schedules.
 - Offer technology training to parents to help support the needs of students at home.
 - Invite parents to School Council Meetings.
 - Provide opportunities to be a Partner In Education.
 - Offer Math, Literacy, and Science family learning nights for parents/guardians, families and students.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Worth County Primary School will provide training to educate the 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:

- Provides ongoing professional learning and communication reports and letters.
- Parents who volunteer help in classrooms, with activities and special events.
- WCPS teachers are reminded frequently of the importance of communicating with parents about their student's behavior, attendance and grades.
- WCPS has a Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator that makes arrangements for volunteers, special activities and events, as well as sending the school newsletter home to parent to keep them up to date with school news.
- Newsletters, letters and emails to parents are written in a conversational tone. Contact information is always provided if they have questions or concerns about the material.
- The Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator responds to parents' requests for meetings, activities, and other general questions or concerns.

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

- Worth County Primary School PTO
- School Council Meetings
- Good Citizen Breakfasts
- Terrific Kids Breakfasts
- Chorus Concerts
- Community Readers
- Fall Festival
- Family Learning Nights
- Volunteering
- Fundraisers
- Workshops
- Fall & Spring Book Fairs