

South Side High School

Parent and Family Engagement Policy 24-25



In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **South Side 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).

South Side High School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve families, 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 improvement 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 families and the school, distribute it to the families 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 families with limited English proficiency, families with disabilities, and families 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 families understand.

- If the school improvement plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, submit any family 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 families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - (C) families 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
 - (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

South Side High School will take the following actions to involve families 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 families, 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.

Parent and community members on the Title I Site-Based Committee will review and make suggestions for the Parent and Family Engagement Plan as well as the Compact. Once the changes are made, parents and community members will review the document which will be posted on the school web-site as a draft and they will be distributed at Parent events such as Meet the Hawks, Annual Title I meeting and rising seniors or freshman etc. Parents and



ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

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

The school will hold the Annual Title I Meeting twice a year (Fall and Spring), it will be held at two different times in order to accommodate parents and community members. The information provided will include but not limited to the Parent and Family Engagement Plan, Compact, and the role of Title I in increasing academic of the students but also to increase the professional knowledge of all teachers and administrators.

COMMUNICATIONS

South Side High School will take the following actions to provide families of participating children the following:

- Parents are notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand.
- A copy of a written school level family involvement plan will be sent home to parents annually and will be available as a link on the district website for the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. Translation of the document will be provided to ELL families upon request.
- Student progress assessments and curriculum information will be made available through written and verbal communications.

The Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be made available at the Annual Title I Meeting, Parent Teacher Conferences and other parent and family events such as sporting events. The school will have copies translated for ELL families as requested, the school will contact the Central Office ELL staff. The Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be posted on the school website for parents, family and community members to view.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

South Side High School will take the following actions to jointly develop with families of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

- As a component of the school level parental involvement policy/plan, the parent-school compact, jointly developed with parents, describes how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.
- The compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.
- The compact describes the ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom, and participating as appropriate, in decisions relating to their children's education, and positive use of extracurricular time.
- The compact addresses the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis. At minimum, the compact has been discussed with parents at parent/teacher conferences, frequent reports have been provided to parents on their children's progress, and parents have reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and to observe classroom activities.
- Parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities and migrant will be provided informational materials in an understandable format and language to the extent practicable.
- Services may be provided to assist parents/guardians to improve parent participation and to formulate suggestions in decisions relating to the education of their children, per parent request.
- The school site-based team will review the School-Parent Compact annually and seek input from parents, teachers, and students.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, South Side High School will take the following actions to involve the families 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:

At the Annual Title I Meeting, as part of the presentation parents and families will be informed of the parent engagement line in the budget. This portion of the funds will be spent to educate and to involve parents in their child's education. The programs focus on Math, English, Science, Social Studies, Study Skills, Transition for Middle School to High School, Graduation Requirements and College and Career Readiness.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

South Side 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 families in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Staff members and parents recognize the importance of building a partnership between the school, families, and the community to improve student academic achievement through training, information, and coordination of activities.
- The school will involve the District Title I Parent Engagement Coordinator with events at the school. Currently the District Title I Parent Engagement Coordinator has a Family Resource Center at SSHS.
- SSHS has several PIE (Partners in Education) that are involved in a variety of activities.
- The School-Parent Compact and information concerning family involvement programs will be made available to parents/guardians and the community at the school site and on the school system's website.
- Opportunities will be provided to promote school-home communication and opportunities to volunteer and collaborate with the community.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

South Side High School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school by:

- South Side will host an annual meeting each school year to inform parents of its status and requirements, the family involvement plan and parents' right to be involved in the school.
- An orientation will be held each spring for incoming students/parents.
- Parents will be invited to attend school functions such as parent workshops, fine arts programs, etc. scheduled before, during, and after the school day.
- District and school staff members will present themselves in a friendly, respectful, and helpful manner, will be accessible to parents, and will welcome parents as volunteers and observers.
- Professional development will be provided to all staff members on the value and usefulness of parent contributions, improved communication techniques and the coordination and implementation of parent programs.

South Side High School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as families may request by:

- Parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities and migrant will be provided informational materials in an understandable format and language to the extent practicable.
- Services may be provided to assist parents/guardians to improve parent participation and to formulate suggestions in decisions relating to the education of their children, per parent request.
- Assistance is provided to parents in understanding topics such as State's academic content standards, State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve student achievement.
- A link to the Tennessee State Department of Education from the state website will allow parents to view the state curriculum for each grade and subject and the aligned curriculum will be available for viewing at the school site. <http://www.tn.gov/education/>
- Parents will be notified of scheduled parent conference, parent meetings and workshops in a timely manner with reminder notices prior to the meeting time.
- A Telephone Notification system informs parents of important information concerning students, as well as the Office Communicator system provided by the district.
- Parents will be notified by the attendance department or the school of frequent absences to meet attendance goals.
- Title I funds will be used to provide parent information sessions to help parents monitor student progress and how to work with educators to improve student achievement.
- Parental involvement strategies are coordinated and integrated as applicable to the school.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENT

- Involve families in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for families 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 families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train families to enhance the engagement of other families.
- 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 families 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.

