



Parent and Family Engagement

Matthews Elementary School

Tuscaloosa County Schools

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Introduction

All Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Schools must complete the following diagnostics: the Stakeholder Feedback Diagnostic, the Parent and Family Engagement Diagnostic, the Coordination of Resource/Comprehensive Budget Diagnostic, and EITHER the Title I Targeted Assistance Diagnostic OR the Title I Schoolwide Diagnostic. Parent Survey must be done annually, but it can be done electronically or by paper.

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Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved. (Sec. 1116(c)(1))

The school will have a Title I parent meeting in September to explain what it means to be a Title I school and how parents can take part in their child's education. We will discuss parent rights, the school curriculum, assessments, parent compact, and available resources.

Describe: 1) How there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement; 2) How parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making.); and 3) How funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school. (Sec. 1116(c)(2)(3))

We will hold a Title I parent meeting once in the Fall and once in the Spring. Parents will have the opportunity to come to a morning and evening session. Parents representatives will meet with the school leadership team to voice input. Parental involvement funds will be used to purchase materials for parent and student events.

Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children. (Sec. 1116(c)(4)(A)(B)(C))

We send out newsletters, emails, phone calls, and use social media to get information to the parents. We hold parent teacher conferences as needed to keep parents informed of student progress. The school-wide advisory committee will meet in April to review the Parent Involvement Plan.

Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated). (Sec.1116(d))

Each Spring, the Title I planning committee meets to review the school-home compact. Each child in the building has a signed copy on file. This compact explains the shared responsibility for improved student achievement and how we will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve high standards.

Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan. (Sec. 1116(c)(5))

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Matthews will provide parents access to the Continuous Improvement Plan through the school's website and will have copies available in the main office. Parents may submit concerns in writing, call, or have a meeting with the Principal.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall 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, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (Describe)

We ask parents to come into the school to volunteer and visit their child's classroom. Our school system offers the Parent Project to offer families strategies to better help their children be successful at school and at home. Our counselor works closely with families and we have a community resources station set up at the school's front entrance. Matthews has Open House the first week of school and parents have the opportunity meet their child's teacher and the entire school staff.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school 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. (Describe)

We hold parent teacher night events, student performance nights, and other events and activities to involve all stakeholders in what is going on at our school. We have sign in sheets and take pictures as evidence of how we are working to reach all stakeholders. We have an ELL specialist in the building each day to assist our ELL students with academic goals. Parent communication is sent home and they can come in at any time to meet with the specialist or administration.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

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Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.(Describe)

Matthews will conduct activities and provide resources throughout the school year that encourage and supports parents in more fully participating in their child's education.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall 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. (Describe)

Matthews will conduct activities and provide resources throughout the school year that encourage and supports parents in more fully participating in their child's education.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (Describe)

Matthews will conduct activities and provide resources throughout the school year that encourage and supports parents in more fully participating in their child's education.

Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (See ESSA Sec. 1117(f))

Information and school reports will be sent to parents in a language that they can understand. Interpreters will provide assistance with parent communication between parent and teacher. Home visits and phone conferences will be held with those parents who are unable to visit the school.

