

Pulaski County Schools

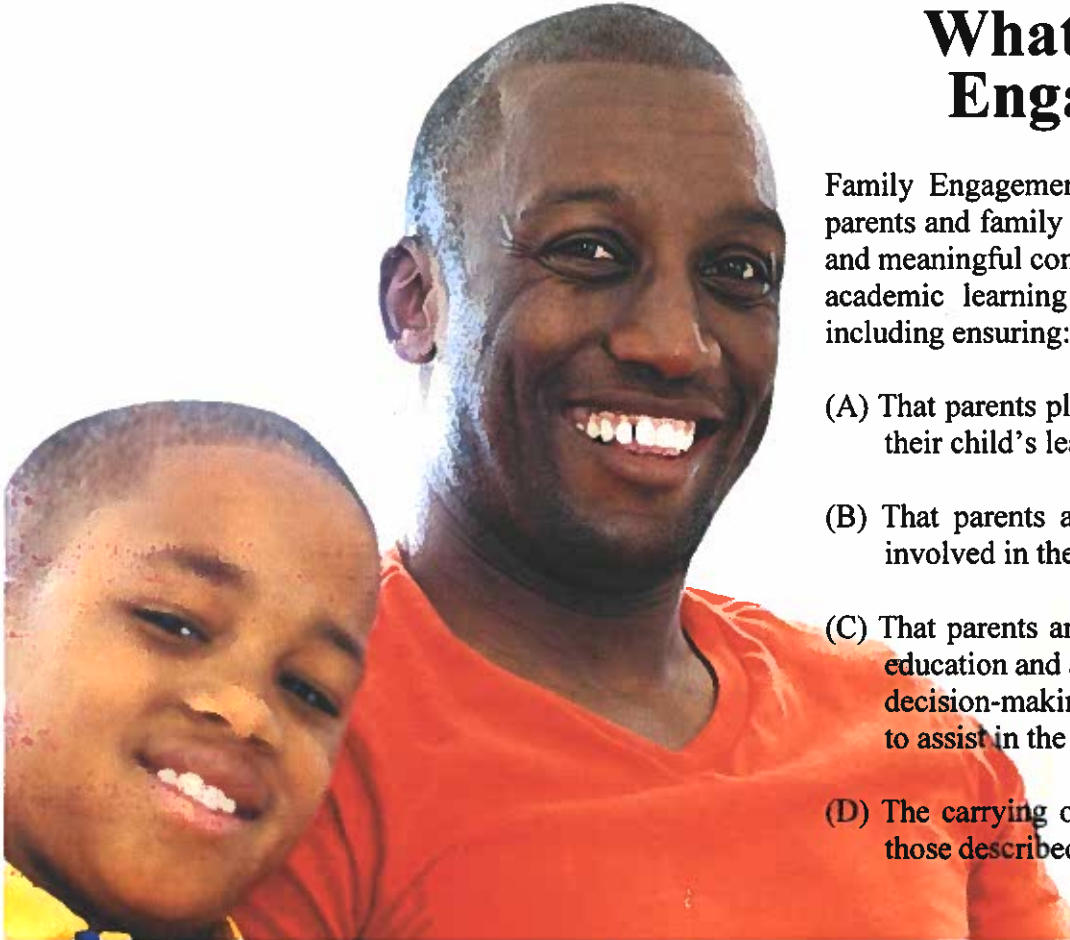
Parent and Family Engagement Plan

2018-19
Revised July 2018
72 Warren Street
Hawkinsville, GA 31036
www.pulaski.k12.ga.us

What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) That 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.



About the Parent and Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Pulaski County School System (PCSS) has developed this parent and family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe PCSS's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better

in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, PCSS will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

Jointly Developed

During the annual Title I Parental Input Meeting in March, all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve this district parent and family engagement policy for the 2018-2019 school year. The district sent newsletters to all parents informing them about this meeting and posted an announcement on the school district website. During this meeting, parents reviewed, discussed, and provided input on the district goals and strategies and interventions in the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan. Additionally, each Title I school's administration and parent representatives will meet to review the district parent and family engagement plan before the start of the school year.

Parents are welcome to submit comments and feed-back regarding the plan at any time on the school district website or by submitting written comments to your child's school. All feedback received will be considered for inclusion with the policy for this school year. Upon final revision, the district parent and family engagement plan will be incorporated into the CLIP which is submitted to the state.

The district parent and family engagement plan will be posted on district and school websites and made available in the schools' parent resource centers.

Strengthening Our School

This year, the district family engagement coordinator (FEC) will provide assistance and support to all Title I schools to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Title I schools will receive notifications and resources from the district and the FEC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district and the FEC will hold monthly meetings and trainings with its Title I schools' principals to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, the district will hold a meeting in July for principals and the FEC to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the school year.

District Contacts

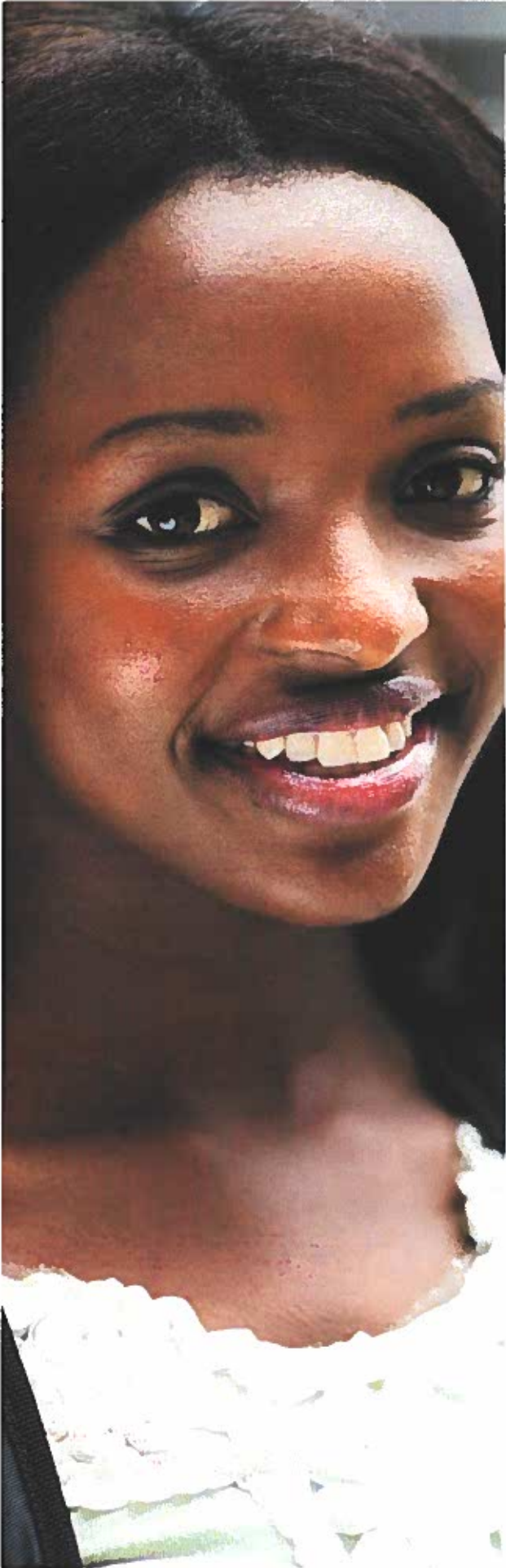
PCES Principal:
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PCMS Principal:
Ms. Natasha Kilgore
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Pulaski County Schools
Title I Director
Mrs. Staci Vickers
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Pulaski County Family Engagement Coordinator
Mrs. Delilah Brantley Carr
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Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Annual Title I Input Meeting ~ March 19, 2019

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from Pulaski County Schools as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement policy and the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan for the 2019-20 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be sent to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school district website and on Channel 10/100.

School Improvement Forums ~ May 2019

Each Title I school will host a meeting for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement plans as well as provide input on the family engagement programs. Each Title I school will send invitations home and email and/or text parents notifying them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Improvement Forums will also be made available on the school websites.

Parent input on Family Engagement Programs may also be provided through the annual district survey. The survey will contain questions related to family engagement as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

Unable to attend these meetings? Feedback forms will be provided on the website. More information will be given when as the dates approach.

www.pulaski.k12.ga.us

Also, please download our APP from the Play Store – search for Pulaski County Schools.

Building Capacity

Pulaski County Schools will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the Title I schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following districtwide activities and programs.

Parents - PCSS will work as a district and through its Title I schools to provide timely assistance to parents in understanding state and district academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, as well as information regarding the Title I program. PCSS will provide classes for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards, local academic assessments, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students including alternative forms of assessment. The dates and locations for these trainings will be posted on the district website and shared through each Title I school's newsletter.

PCSS will also coordinate resources in the Parent Resource Centers that will contain resources and materials, including parent guides, study guides, and practice assessments, to help parents work with their children at home. Copies of these materials will be made available at all Title I schools for those families, including copies in Spanish. Any locally approved instructional materials and content used by the school system shall be available for review on site upon request during school hours. Inquiries can be directed to Staci Vickers, Assistant Superintendent (20-2-1017). To assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources, the PCSS technology specialist will partner with Title I schools to host workshops for parents. Dates and times for these workshops will be determined and announced by each individual school.

PCSS collaborates with Family Connections to provide advice on matters related to family engagement and strengthening student academic achievement. This Collaborative is comprised of parents from each Title I school, business and community leaders, and health care partners. Dates of the meetings are emailed to all members and placed in the local newspaper. Minutes from these meetings are emailed to all members to ensure continuous communication.

Transition activities will be scheduled for each transitional grade, Pre-K, 5th, 8th and 11th. These will include activities for the students and the parents to help prepare for the next school year.

School Staff - PCSS will conduct trainings during the school year for principals and school staff to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will include a New School Year Orientation, Family Partnership Videos and Reflections, and book studies. The Title I Director and District FEC will attend additional training to be redelivered to faculty and staff.

To ensure that information related to district, school, parent programs, and activities is available to all parents, each Title I school is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events. The district will utilize school phone call systems, district and school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, Pulaski County Schools will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forum.

Beginning in April, each Title I school will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school

websites for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also use the Annual Title I Parent Meetings to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of parents of children eligible to receive Title I services and to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

PCSS will use the findings from the school forum and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parental participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement plans.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Mark Your Calendars

For Parents

Annual Title I Meetings
PCES: September 18 & 20,
2018
PMCS: October 25, 2018

Fall Parent/Teacher
Conference:
October 9, 2018

School Improvement Forum
May 2019 –
Local school site

Annual Title I Parent Input
Meeting
March 19, 2019 – PCES

For Schools

New School Year
Orientation
July 2018 –
Local School Sites

Principal and FEC
Meetings
Second Thursday of
each month



Adoption

This districtwide parent and family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at the annual State of the School Forum.

This plan was adopted by the Pulaski County School District on July 17, 2018, and will be in effect for the 2018-2019 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 1, 2018.