



W.S. HORNSBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

320 Kentucky Avenue
Augusta, GA 30901

Phone: (706)823-6960
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School, Parents, and Family Engagement Policy ***W.S. Hornsby Middle School*** ***2020-2021*** ***Revision Date: 7/26/2020***

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **W.S. Hornsby Middle School** receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree with, and to distribute to parents and family members of participating children. It will include 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). The **W.S. Hornsby Middle 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; This includes the planning, review, and improvement of the school, parents, 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. This also includes 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;



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- 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

W.S. Hornsby Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner. This includes in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, as well as 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.

W.S. Hornsby Middle School faculty and staff, student body, parents, and stakeholders met to revise and make necessary changes to the Parent and Family Engagement Plan/Policy. Teachers shared various AVID strategies, the Parent Survey was shared to gain parent feedback, and students discussed what would assist them in achieving their academic goals. A Parent Forum was held to review current policy and make necessary additions and corrections based on student data needs. Parents are welcome to contribute comments throughout the school academic year.



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ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

W.S. Hornsby Middle 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. We will 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 school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- ✓ Annual District Title I Meeting
- ✓ Volunteer Workshop
- ✓ Parent Teacher Conferences
- ✓ Communication with Parents via flyers, website, and marquee
- ✓ Georgia Milestones Training
- ✓ Parent and Child Time Monthly Meetings

COMMUNICATIONS

W.S. Hornsby Middle School will take the following actions to provide parents of the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
 - 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 relative to parent and family engagement;
 - 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.
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- ✓ Parents will be invited to attend Parent University and other Title I Parental Involvement Workshops.
 - ✓ Shout Points will be sent out to parents with important information as well as flyers will be sent home with students.
 - ✓ Teachers are required to communicate with parents on a weekly basis with email and individual telephone calls to parents.
 - ✓ School Administrators will attend various Professional Learning Trainings throughout the school year that involves Parent Communication.



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SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

W.S. Hornsby Middle 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.

W.S. Hornsby Middle School took the following actions to jointly develop and implement with parents grade level compacts. These compacts outline how parents, the school faculty and staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. They also include the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to assist students in their academic achievement.

- ✓ An invitation to attend the Annual Title I Parent Forum will be sent to parents during the spring of each academic school year.
- ✓ Multiple meetings will be held by the Title I Parent Designee throughout the school year with flexibility in parent scheduling.
- ✓ School Compacts will be drafted by parents in attendance at the scheduled meetings.
- ✓ The drafts will be updated based on feedback from teachers, the school leadership team, and the stakeholders.
- ✓ The draft will be reviewed by the Title I Program Coordinator and feedback will be provided.
- ✓ A final document with additions and corrections will be submitted to the District Title I office, posted on the school website, and sent home with all students to serve as an agreement between the school, parents, and students of the shared responsibility in continued progress of student academic achievement.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **W.S. Hornsby Middle 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:

- ✓ Celebrating monthly academic achievement, i-Ready improvements in Reading and Math by having small celebrations with students and their families utilizing various methods of praise.
- ✓ Ongoing training opportunities for faculty and staff, parent designee, parents, and administration;
- ✓ Monthly Training Session on Active Parenting.



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COORDINATION OF SERVICES

W.S. Hornsby Middle 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. This will include 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:

- ✓ Parent Resource Center
- ✓ Transition Workshops for 5th Graders entering 6th Grade;
- ✓ Transition Workshop for 8th Graders entering 9th Grade.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

W.S. Hornsby Middle 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;
 - 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;
 - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child.
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- ✓ Curriculum Night
 - ✓ AVID Night
 - ✓ Report Card Night
 - ✓ Parent Center to check out educational material to assist in student academic achievement



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BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

W.S. Hornsby Middle 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 a partnership between parents and the school by:

- ✓ Professional Learning Sessions;
- ✓ Volunteer Training;
- ✓ RTI Training;
- ✓ Luncheon with Parental Participation;
- ✓ Assemblies with Guest Speakers from various Career Backgrounds.

W. S. Hornsby Middle School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- ✓ Various workshop on Active Parenting throughout the school year;
- ✓ Hand-on experiences for parents utilizing various educational programs utilized in the school;
- ✓ Invitation to attend School Council Meetings.



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DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

- 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 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.

The Active Parenting Lunch and Learn Program will be implemented along with our School Clothing Closet and Food Pantry Initiative. There will be clothing and shoes needs available for parents and students ranging from infants to men and women adult sizes. There will also be food needs available so that nourishment needs can also be met as needed. There will be upon proper training, parent volunteers who will assist in running and keeping stocked our School Clothing Closet and Food Pantry.

The above indicated discretionary items highlighted will be implemented by working with community-based organizations which are SPARK, Shaping Lives, and Strengthening Families. They will on a weekly basis along with teachers, faculty and staff, administrators, as well as tutors assist students academically as well as with social concerns. They will also provide students with opportunities to visit various places in the community to gain additional exposure in areas normally not received due to poverty. They will also build meaning relationships with parents and families because parents in addition as well as siblings will be encouraged to attend in these outing and educational experiences to build family capacity.