



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Alternative Education School at Lamar
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In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Alternative Education School at Lamar** 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).

The **Alternative Education School at Lamar** 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

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Alternative Education School at Lamar will take the following actions to involve parents 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 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.

Two formal morning and afternoon meetings will be conducted yearly to include to include parents in the planning process for the school program and revision of the school-parent compact. In addition, an initial meeting will inform parents of the school's Title I Plan, its requirements and their right to be involved in the program. Two formal evening meetings (Report Card Afternoon, Parent Day, Open House and other Noon Day Activities), will also be conducted to inform parents of their students' progress and plan for intervention when needed.

The Alternative Education School will assist parents in understanding the state of Georgia's academic content standards. Information on state and local assessments used to measure student's progress and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet is shared with the parents. Title I funds will be provided for transportations, childcare and home visits as needed

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Alternative Education School at Lamar 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 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.

The Alternative Education School at Lamar will hold its Annual Title 1 meeting on a yearly basis to inform parents of the requirements of Title 1. Parents will be informed through Global Connect, Website, Front Office, Parent Center, Newsletters, Curriculum and the Revised Parent and Family Engagement Policy.

COMMUNICATIONS

Alternative Education School at Lamar will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children 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 relate 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:
- The Family and Engagement Policy will be distributed to parent during Registration on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week, when parents and students are scheduled.
- Information will be provided during Orientation, so that parent will be informed of meetings, programs, teachers, administration and during sessions with the principal to aid parents become aware of their responsibilities and the needs of the (child), student.
- There will be Question/Answers sessions during all phases where parents are involved, so that they will understand any materials or conversations that need explanations.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Alternative Education School at Lamar 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.

Parents will jointly develop a School-Parent Compact with the Parent/Family Facilitator, parent networking together, the guidance counselor, leadership team to help create the best School-Parent Compact, so that parents may understand and explain it to their children.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **Alternative Education School at Lamar** 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:

The school will identify with input from parents needs for academic classes that will ensure students get the best education possible, by a partnership with community leaders such as religious, civic, military, graduate programs and non-profits who will offer various resources, volunteers, mentors, tutors and a Four-Leaf Clover project to reach parents and students in the North, South, East and West of the Richmond Count School System.

Various incentives from companies such as Gift Cards, sponsored trips, food, merit of honor programs to ensure they learn, achieve and succeed. All types of school supplies and other personal needs to build self-esteem. Parent will learn and have input during registration and orientation to learn what is required and work with teacher and student for success. Afternoon assemblies, computer assistance, IReady, ingenuity, Drop everything and read and drop everything and write.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Alternative Education School at Lamar 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:

The district will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources to families in the following way:

- **Partnership in Education**
- **Military and Education Assistance Programs**
- **Non-Profits will provide services and volunteers**
- **Businesses will give certain monies and training to students and parents**
- **Faith-Based Programs will have mentors, tutors, volunteers, and monies**
- **Uniforms for schools with such policies**
- **Schools will be given incentives to assist parents with needs when requested**
- **Off-Campus academic support: Ensuring home visits and home schooling**
- **Invite community partners to the registration and orientation with parent, student school administration, teacher, so that they may address to the assembly and present how their they can offer/provide/assist in preparing parent and student for: Workforce/Job placement, Education, Government, Medical field, Retirement, supporting families going through crisis and individual and collective grief, Military, Behavioral and special need services and Arise 2 Read partners.**

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Alternative Education School at Lamar 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
- 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
 - The Parent Portal
 - Administration, Faculty and Staff Meetings
 - Community Based Sessions
 - Reading Materials in Parent Office
 - Providing Class Flow sessions with parent/Teacher for technology updates.
 - Bullying Prevention Session to equip parents for recognizing the problem.
 - Suicide Prevention Classes
 - The Student, Parent and Community Advisory Council
 - The Volunteer Program – Parent may enroll child into the AU Volunteer Program gives local high school students the opportunity to contribute to the community while exploring a career in the medical field. Those who are eligible are Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors ages 15-18. First come, First serve may apply. This gives parent chances to engage with their child.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Alternative Education School at Lamar 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 ties between parents and the school by:

- School Staff can build their capacity to discuss reading and writing strategies that parents can promote at home.
- Have work sessions with staff on professional learning sessions to help parents understand what is required for student achievement.
- Family-School and Community can work together, because family are first teachers of their children. A school may become effective with high levels of learning through parental and community involvement.
- Parent-Teacher Team meetings will be offered with school staff to help evaluate behavioral and academic needs of the child through grade recovery ingenuity, foreign languages and community based program to help parents understand gang intervention and prevention, so that they will concentrate on academic and behavioral success rather than illegal alternatives.

The following support for parents will be used in helping their student's academic success: Workshops will be planned through Professional Learning and disseminated to parents through students when available. Conferences will be held when parents are called to discuss not only their academics, but their behavior and attendance. Classes are planned when parents at the discretion of the administration. On-line resources can be placed in the Parent Portal or send to them by parent facilitator or by the media specialist. The parent-teacher team meeting uses the parent room to discuss basically academic concerns with parents. There are some materials, front office information, parent facilitator office has information. And parents having input to see that their child school needs are met in a professional and caring matter,

Alternative Education School at Lamar will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

“It takes a village to raise a child” is a popular proverb with a clear message the whole community has an essential role to play in the growth and development of its young people. In addition to the vital role that parents and family members play in a child's education the broader community too has a responsibility to assure high-quality education for all students,

Parents, family, and community involvement means different things to different people. We will list a few for reasonable support for parents and family engagement activities:

- When schools, parents, families, and communities work together to support learning, students tend to earn higher grades.
- Parent, school, families and community aids in decreasing the drop-out rate.
- A school, family, community partners foster higher educational aspirations and more motivated students,

- Parent, education, family and community holds true for students at both the elementary and secondary level, regardless of the parent's education, family income, or background and the research shows parent involvement affects minority students' academic achievement across all races.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

POLICY COMPONENTS

***NOTE TO SCHOOLS:** The School Parent and Family Engagement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in meaningful consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1116(e) of the ESSA.*

Indicate which of the following discretionary (optional) school parent and family engagement policy components the school will implement to improve family-school partnerships:

- ☐ 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 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.

The discretionary items checked above will be implemented through the leadership of the administration and brought to the Leadership Team meeting for input and implementation. Parents will have an opportunity to discuss these engagement policies during orientation and

other meetings scheduled by the administration and the parent facilitator in conjunction with the leadership of the school.