

Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy (Sec. 1116 (2))

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(A))

- A. Describe how the Local Education will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).**

Parents were involved in the development and review of the Parent and Family Engagement section of the Consolidated Plan by serving as members of the Russellville City Schools Advisory Panel. During annual meetings with parents of participating students in Title I schools, the Consolidated Plan is distributed. All parents will be given surveys at the end of the school year to give their comments on activities, materials, and training that the school should offer or improve on for the next school year. The advisory panel will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized activities. They will also use the evaluation to design more effective strategies and revise the plan as needed to meet the needs of all students.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy is made available to parents in the following venues:

- Annual Title I Meeting
- Russellville City Schools website and all Title I School Websites
- Administrative Offices

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(B))

- B. Describe how the Local Education Agency will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.**

Russellville City Schools provides for the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. RCS coordinates with employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations and parents on planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement. Additional parent meetings/activities will be held at various times during the school year. Meetings/activities will be arranged at various times so that parents can attend. Different meetings/activities will be of a different nature so that all parents can be encouraged to participate. Some may be more formal and informative. Some may be informal meetings between Title I teachers and parents, and some may include hands-on activities, such as looking at computer programs and tips for their child to be successful in reading. All meetings will have a translator available to assist with language barriers. Parents may be notified of meetings through (1) notices sent home by students in the appropriate language, (2) newspaper announcements, (3) announcements on Russellville City Schools Educational Television Station, (4) internet postings on Russellville City Schools Website, and (5) public postings in English and Spanish (6) Schoolcast Calling/Texting System.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(C))

- C. Describe how the Local Education Agency will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the**

extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.

Russellville City Schools provides for the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. RCS coordinates with employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations and parents on planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement. Additional parent meetings/activities will be held at various times during the school year. Meetings/activities will be arranged at various times so that parents can attend. Different meetings/activities will be of a different nature so that all parents can be encouraged to participate. Some may be more formal and informative. Some may be informal meetings between Title I teachers and parents, and some may include hands-on activities, such as looking at computer programs and tips for their child to be successful in reading. All meetings will have a translator available to assist with language barriers. Parents may be notified of meetings through (1) notices sent home by students in the appropriate language, (2) newspaper announcements, (3) announcements on Russellville City Schools Educational Television Station, (4) internet postings on Russellville City Schools Website, and (5) public postings in English and Spanish (6) Schoolcast Calling/Texting System.

Sec. 1116(a)(2)(D))

D. Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—

(i) barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background)

Russellville City Schools, to the extent practical, provides opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of immigrants and parents of migratory children. All important information is sent home in Spanish and notices about parent meetings are sent in Spanish. An EL aide is available onsite to assist with the creation of such documents and questions from parents concerning information sent home. Every effort is made to accommodate parents with disabilities. Russellville City Schools has handicapped accessible buildings.

(ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers

RCS shall educate teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators with the assistance of parents on how to reach out, communicate with, and build ties between parents and the school. Russellville City Schools will continue working with teachers to help in the understanding of the importance of parent and family engagement in the schools through grade-level meetings, faculty meetings, in-services, and professional development workshops. The entire Russellville City Schools staff is expected to continue their work with parents in meeting their child's needs to ensure academic achievement.

(iii) strategies to support successful school and family interactions

Parents were involved in the development and review of the Parent and Family Engagement section of the Consolidated Plan by serving as members of the Russellville City Schools Advisory Panel. During annual meetings with parents of participating students in Title I schools, the Consolidated Plan is distributed. All parents will be given surveys at the end of the school year to give their comments on activities, materials, and training that the school should offer or improve on for the next school year. The advisory panel will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized

activities. They will also use the evaluation to design more effective strategies and revise the plan as needed to meet the needs of all students.

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Sec. 1116(a)(2)(E))

- E. Describe how the Local Education Agency will use the findings of such evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116(2)(D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.**

Parents were involved in the development and review of the Parent and Family Engagement section of the Consolidated Plan by serving as members of the Russellville City Schools Advisory Panel. During annual meetings with parents of participating students in Title I schools, the Consolidated Plan is distributed. All parents will be given surveys at the end of the school year to give their comments on activities, materials, and training that the school should offer or improve on for the next school year. The advisory panel will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized activities. They will also use the evaluation to design more effective strategies and revise the plan as needed to meet the needs of all students.

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Sec. 1116(a)(2)(F))

- F. Describe how the Local Education Agency will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.**

The planning process began with the Federal Programs Coordinator, administrators of the local schools and others attending meetings, workshops, and planning sessions at the state and district level. An advisory panel was created with individuals who could serve on various committees. This panel is a springboard for successful parental involvement in all federal programs. The advisory panel was appointed to include parents of children served in our various federal programs such as English Language Learners (EL), Title I, and Special Education. Parents of students in these programs, teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators from the school served were included and attended their specific meetings.

Russellville City Schools Advisory Panel, Federal Program Coordinator and Title I schools annually hold parent meetings and have parent conferences with most of their parents at least once a year.

In order to build capacity for Parent and Family Engagement, the Local Education Agency will ensure effective involvement of parents and will support a partnership among the schools involved, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the LEA shall:

- G. Describe how it will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.**

Shall train parents of participating students in understanding the CCRS standards, performance standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators toward their child's improved performance and achievement. This will be done through conferences, an annual Title I meeting, various parent meetings are held during the day and evening at which time the school will explain how to understand all components of their child's education.

- H. Describe how it will 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 (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.**

RCS shall provide materials and facilities to train parents, teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators to work with each other and with parents as equal partners to improve their child's performance. Russellville City Schools is developing an extensive parental involvement web page. Throughout the year, parent workshops will be held on various topics such as computer training, homework help, and tips on how to help your child become a successful reader.

- I. Describe how it will 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.**

RCS shall educate teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators with the assistance of parents on how to reach out, communicate with, and build ties between parents and the school. Russellville City Schools will continue working with teachers to help in the understanding of the importance of parental involvement in the schools through grade-level meetings, faculty meetings, in-services, and professional development workshops. The entire Russellville City Schools staff is expected to continue their work with parents in meeting their child's needs to ensure academic achievement.

- J. Describe how it will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement 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.**

RCS shall work closely with Russellville Head Start and Russellville City Schools Pre School Program to have a successful transition for children entering our school system. Administrators set aside a day to visit with Head Start parents to explain our school programs. The transition is made easier by students and parents touring our building, meeting the principal, and asking questions before kindergarten registration. Translators are made available for our EL preschoolers and their parents.

K. Describe how it will 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.

RCS shall ensure that information concerning a child's progress and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format the parent can understand. Documents are created in Spanish and an EL aide is available on site for translation and interpretation.

L. Describe how it will ensure provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

RCS shall ensure to the extent feasible and appropriate, under Title I, Part A, Russellville City Schools coordinates and integrates parental involvement programs and activities with other federal programs, such as our EL program. We have an EL aides available on site for translation and interpretation.

M. Describe how the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.

RCS may involve parents in the development and effectiveness of training for certified personnel. Results from the annual Title I parent surveys are used when determining professional development needs for principal, teachers and other educators.

N. Describe how the LEA may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.

RCS may provide necessary literacy training for parents. If funds are not available, Part A funds may be used if all other monies have been exhausted.

O. Describe how the LEA may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

RCS may provide reasonable expenses to enable parents to participate in Title I meetings and training sessions.

P. Describe how the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

RCS may train parents as part of the advisory panel annual meeting and the annual Title I parent meeting to increase the involvement of non-active parents.

Q. Describe how the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.

RCS may offer meetings on a flexible schedule, alternating between morning and evening, to accommodate parents work schedules.

R. Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.

RCS may provide access to programs initiated to strengthen parent involvement.

S. Describe how the LEA may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.

RCS may establish a district wide parent advisory council to serve as liaisons to all matters related to all federally funded programs.

T. Describe how the LEA may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.

RCS involves community based organizations and businesses in the annual advisory panel meeting and encourages participation in school activities and programs.

Sec. 1116(f)

- U. Describe how the Local Education Agency, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed 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, parent and family members of homeless children, and parents and family members of immigrant 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.**

Russellville City Schools, to the extent practical, provides opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of immigrants and parents of migratory children. All important information is sent home in Spanish and notices about parent meetings are sent in Spanish. An EL aide is available onsite to assist with the creation of such documents and questions from parents concerning information sent home. Every effort is made to accommodate parents with disabilities. Russellville City Schools has handicapped accessible buildings.

This LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by

_____. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before _____.

PLAN APPROVED BY (Person or Entity)

DATE OF APPROVAL