



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Fort Valley Middle School
School Year 2020 - 2021
Revision Date 04/27/2020

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **Fort Valley Middle School** 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 **Fort Valley 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, 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

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Fort Valley Middle School 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.

During the planning sessions in February through April all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions on the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, 1% Parent Involvement budget, and the School-Parent Compacts.

We will notify parents of the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I programs, including involvement in decisions on how funds for how parental involvement will be used several ways: notify them of meetings in a timely manner through Remind, emails, sending home flyers with students in both languages and displaying it on the school marquee. In the meeting, the Title I programs will be discussed and reviewed with input from the parents; the funds for parental involvement usage will be discussed with parental input.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Fort Valley 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 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.

During the month of August, Fort Valley Middle School holds an Annual Title I Parent Meeting to inform parents about FVMS Title I programs, the parents' requirements, the school-parent & family engagement policy, the school wide plan, and school-parent compact.

Fort Valley Middle School will invite all parents to attend the annual meeting after school and will encourage all parents by way of inviting them to the meeting through Remind, email, and flyer sent home by student with teacher incentive. This meeting will outline the Title I program, update the parent and family engagement policy in order to meet the changing needs of the parents and school, the school wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

COMMUNICATIONS

Fort Valley Middle School 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:

Fort Valley Middle School will be flexible in offering the number of meeting and meeting times. We will offer meetings in the morning throughout the year and some in the afternoon throughout or both in one day to make things convenient for the parent and foster more parental involvement.

Fort Valley Middle School will provide information concerning any Title I programs to parents in a timely manner through call-out, flyers, information posted outside school marquee, Remind App, and email. Fort Valley Middle School uses the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies. GSE will ensure that all Georgia Students have equal access and opportunity to master the skills and knowledge needed for success beyond high school. The standards create a foundation to work collaboratively across states, districts, pooling resources and expertise, to create curricular tools, professional development, common assessments, and other instructional materials.

Fort Valley Middle School will allow opportunities for regular meetings if requested by parents during the school day and in the evening to accommodate the parents of students to answer any questions or take any input concerning their child's education.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Fort Valley 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.

Fort Valley Middle School will collaborate with the parents through a school meeting between February and April that will allow the teachers to explain the entire school staff commitment and responsibility to the students. The parents will be allowed to write and develop their portion of the compact and this will outline the shared responsibility by which we will all take to build a partnership and help children achieve the state's high standard.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **Fort Valley 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:

- During the months of Feb. – Mar. planning sessions are held for parents, so that they can provide suggestions/ input on the 1% parent involvement budget.
- Plans for meetings will be posted on the school website with copies made available in the FVMS front office and the Family Resource Center.
- Title I Programs Evaluations will be conducted throughout the school year with opportunities for parents to provide input on Title I surveys at the FVMS Annual Title I Meeting, after parent workshops or student performances and during Title I planning meetings.
- Handouts summarizing how Title I funds are used will be made available to stakeholders at the Annual Title I Meeting per request.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Fort Valley 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, 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:

“Smooth Moves” a program that is collaborated between the elementary and middle school counselors that helps 5th graders transition to the 6th grade. It’s a program that entails the following:

- Orientation Program (introductions to principals, 6th grade teachers, connection classes, athletics, etc.)
- Tour of the Campus(provided by our 6th graders)
- Snack and Chat on the bus ramp
- Recruitment from the Band and Chorus teachers

A transitional activity for departing 8th graders, which includes:

- Completion of electronic Interest Surveys on Georgia Career Information Service during classroom guidance.
- Parent Night/High School Orientation(CTAE students and high school counselor set up displays on our campus at this evening event)
- Student complete Individual High School Graduation Plans and return them to the counselor with parent signatures. (these plans show required and elective courses needed for graduation)
- High School Course Selection/Registration forms are completed/signed by student and parent.(these forms/data input are used to compile the 9th grade schedules)

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Fort Valley 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; 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

Fort Valley Middle School will build capacity for strong parental involvement and provide parents with assistance by:

- Hosting at least two academic parent workshops within the academic school year.
- Send home teacher generated progress reports home every two weeks.
- Encourage all parents to sign-up for parent portal to easily assess students' grades and behavior information at all times. Parent portal is designed to help parents/guardians monitor their child's progress at all times.
- Informing parents of days that are designated as parent conference days per grade level.
- Hosting an EL Parent Outreach Meeting
- **PACT MATH 9/2020**
- **Curriculum Night 11/2020**
- **PACT ELA 12/2020**
- **PACT MATH 1/2021**
- **Curriculum Night 2/2021**
- **GA Milestones Workshop 3/2021**

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Fort Valley 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 ties between parents and the school by:

Fort Valley Middle School Family Engagement Coordinator will provide training sessions the 1st and 2nd semester to faculty and staff on how to implement and coordinate parent involvement between parents and the school.

Fort Valley Middle School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Maximizing parental involvement and participation in their child's education, arranging 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 parental involvement.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.
 - **Open House July 2020**
 - **Annual Title I Meeting 8/2020**
 - **Why Attendance Matters 8/2020**
 - **PACT MATH 9/2020**
 - **Cyber Safety Workshop 9/2020**
 - **Infinite Campus Workshop 10/2020**
 - **Curriculum Night 11/2020**
 - **PACT ELA 12/2020**
 - **PACT MATH 1/2021**
 - **Curriculum Night 2/2021**
 - **GA Milestones Workshop 3/2021**
 - **Procter Training 3/2021**

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.
- X 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.
- X 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.
- Fort Valley State University and the IHelp Collaborative Partnership Program provides placement of FVSU student volunteers for to assist with various school events for field experiences.
- Peach County Family Connection provides collaborative informative meetings with community leaders and various organizations to promote the participation in events that support Peach County.