MASON COUNTY SCHOOLS PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

LEA Parent and Family Engagement Plan as Required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Section 1116(a)(2)

To enhance student academic achievement, each local educational agency (LEA) receiving Title I, Part A funds must collaboratively develop, agree upon, and distribute a written parent and family engagement Plan to the parents of participating children. This Plan, as required by section 1116(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), outlines the LEA's expectations for parent and family involvement and details how the LEA will carry out various engagement activities. Additionally, this Plan is included in the LEA's plan submitted to the State educational agency (SEA).

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Mason County Schools agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The Mason County School District will establish programs, activities, and procedures for parent involvement in all its schools with Title I, Part A programs, in accordance with section 1116 of the ESEA. These initiatives will be planned and executed with meaningful consultation with the parents of participating children.

- In line with section 1116 of the ESEA, Mason County School District will collaborate with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies comply with section 1116(b) of the ESEA and include a school-parent compact as outlined in section 1116(d) of the ESEA.

- Mason County School District will integrate this district-wide parent and family engagement Plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.

- While fulfilling the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements, Mason County School District and its schools will, to the extent practicable, provide opportunities for informed participation of parents and family members, including those with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children. This includes providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, alternative formats upon request, and, where practicable, in a language parents understand.

- If the Mason County School District plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is unsatisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when it is submitted to the SEA.

- The Mason County School District will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1% of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, ensuring that no less than 90% of the reserved funds go directly to the schools.

  The Mason County School District will adhere to the statutory definition of “parent and family engagement” and expects its Title I schools to conduct programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition.

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Parent and family engagement involves parents participating in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication about student academic learning and other school activities. This includes ensuring:

- Parents play a key role in supporting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and advisory committees to assist in their child's education.
- Other activities are performed, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MASON COUNTY SCHOOLS WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

- Mason County Schools will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in the joint development of its district-wide parent and family engagement plan under section 1116 of ESEA:
    a. Parents, families, and community members will be notified by the County of the district wide parental, family, and community involvement plan.
    b. Parents, families, and community members will be invited to assist in the development of the district wide parental, family, and community involvement plan.
    c. The Mason County Schools Steering Committee will work on revisions to the district wide parental, family, and community involvement plan.
    d. The county will provide assistance to parents and families with English as a second language, as well as parents and families with literacy comprehension difficulty so they may participate. They will also be provided with information about the Title I, Title III, Special Education, Preschool, and general education services available to their children and other services they may be eligible for in order to meet their individual needs.

- Mason County Schools will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in developing the LEA plan under section 1112 of ESEA, and support and improvement plans under section 1111(d)(1)-(2) of ESEA:
    a. Parents, families, and community members will be notified and invited to become a part of the Local School Improvement Councils (LSIC) at each school in the district.
    b. Parents, families, and community members will be notified and invited to become a part of the Mason County Schools Steering Committee.
    c. Parents, families, and community members will be notified and invited to become a part of advisory groups at schools in the district.
    d. The district-wide plan will be developed in accordance with state-provided guidelines. All parents will then have the opportunity to comment upon the Plan as necessary. The Plan will be reviewed annually.

- Mason County Schools will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
    a. Title I funds are used for parent, family, and community involvement. Each Title I school develops a plan to maximize parent, family, and community involvement.
    b. All schools will be required to plan and implement effective parent, family, and community involvement activities.
    c. The county will annually provide training for administrators on keeping an open line of communication between school and home; effective parent, family, and community involvement; and finding volunteers to help in the schools.
    d. The county will provide information on its website to help parents, families, and community members and will encourage each school to put information on their websites to support parents, families, and community members.

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- Mason County Schools will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in Title I, Part A with parent and family engagement strategies of the following other relevant federal, state, and local programs:
    a. The county Director of Special Education will work closely to coordinate and integrate all the universal preschool programs in the county.
    b. The county will provide technical assistance to schools in having effective transition plans in place.
    c. Parental, family, and community informational meetings will be part of the transition process. Each school will be responsible for holding at least one meeting for the parents, families, and community members in their enrollment area.
    d. Focus on social/emotional growth in all Preschool programs with Positive Behavior Support programs.
    e. Each school in the county will hold parent, family, and community informational meetings.

- Mason County Schools will undertake the following actions to conduct an annual evaluation, with parent engagement, of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement Plan in enhancing the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will focus on identifying barriers to greater parent participation in engagement activities, particularly for parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or belong to any racial or ethnic minority group. It will also assess the needs of parents and family members to support their children's learning, including interactions with school personnel and teachers, and strategies to foster successful school-family relationships. The LEA will use the evaluation findings to develop evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and, if necessary, revise its engagement policies with parent involvement:

    a. The county will annually survey parents, family, and community members.
    b. The county will analyze the data received from the surveys and adjust parent, family, and community involvement practices in all schools. Survey results will be used to modify the plan as needed.

- Mason County Schools will enhance the capacity of schools and parents for robust parent and family engagement. This aims to ensure effective parent involvement and foster a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. The following activities will be specifically undertaken:

    - With the support of its Title I, Part A schools, the LEA will assist parents of children served by the LEA or school in understanding the following topics, as appropriate, by taking the actions described below:

        - The state's challenging 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 collaborate with educators

            - School district will provide parents, families, and community members information annually on how to work with educators.
            - School district will provide parents and families with the results of students' annual assessments, including alternate assessments.

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        - School district will provide parents and families with multiple opportunities for conferencing with teachers (i.e. Student Assistance Team Meetings [SAT] and individually scheduled conferences).

- The LEA will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement by:

    - Per SB 422, require all schools to post the adopted, up-to-date, county adopted classroom curriculum on the school's website.
    - Requiring all schools to provide parent, family, and community meetings/trainings.
    - Convening Mason County Steering Committee involving all parents, families, and community members in the district.
    - Collaborating with the Family Resource Network and other community agencies.

- The LEA will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

    - Utilizing the Apptegy-Thrillshare, WVEIS Gradebook, Mason County Schools App, Mason County Schools Facebook page, and the LEA website to communicate with parents, families, community members, and stakeholders.
    - Annually train administrators in the district on how to effectively work with parents and families to assist in their child's education.

- The LEA will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other relevant federal, state, and local 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:

    - Working with the Director of Special Education to coordinate and integrate the universal preschool program.
    - Providing technical assistance to schools on effective transitioning processes in place throughout the school system.
    - Providing information regarding school registration.
    - Holding parent, family, and community informational meetings as part of the transition process. Each school will be responsible for holding at least one meeting for the parents, families, and community members in their enrollment area.
    - Each school is responsible for providing a transition activity during the school day for PK to K, K to 1, and when students are changing buildings (6 to 7 and PPPS/PPIS 2 to 3).

- The LEA will take the following actions to ensure that 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:

    - Survey at each school, in the enrollment packet, requesting if the need exists to send information to the home in a different language or format.
    - The county will support schools in formatting all information in a language parents and families can understand.

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PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT-WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The LEA Parent and Family Engagement Plan may include additional sections that outline and describe various optional activities the LEA, in collaboration with parents, decides to implement to enhance parents' involvement in the school and support their children's academic success. These activities, as listed under section 1116(e) of ESEA, may include:

- Engaging parents in the creation of training programs for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training
- Offering necessary literacy training for parents using Title I, Part A funds, if all other reasonable funding sources have been exhausted
- Covering reasonable and necessary expenses related to parent and family engagement activities, such as transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to attend school-related meetings and training sessions
- Training parents to encourage the involvement of other parents
- Maximizing parent and family engagement and participating in their children's education, scheduling school meetings at various times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators and parents who cannot attend school conferences
- Adopting and implementing exemplary approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- Forming a district-wide parent advisory council to provide input on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs
- Developing suitable roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent and family engagement activities
- Providing other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under section 1116 as requested by parents

PART IV. ADOPTION

The LEA Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by Mason County Steering Committee Minutes and Concerns collected during comment period.

This Plan was adopted by the Mason County Board of Education on _____and will be in effect until the committee requests changes. The LEA will announce this Plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1, 2026 and publish on the county website. Printed copies are available upon request.

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Mrs. Melissa Farmer
Superintendent, Mason County Schools

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