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2025-2026 LEA Consolidated Parent and Family Engagement Plan

The purpose of the LEA Consolidated Plan is to ensure that all children receive a high-quality education and to close the achievement gap between children meeting the challenging State academic standards and those children who are not meeting such standards. **Each local educational agency plan shall:**

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

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

A. Describe how the Local Education Agency 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).

Montgomery Public Schools (MPS) is committed to parent and family engagement. MPS will ensure that parents of students who are enrolled in Title I schools have an opportunity to participate in the development of the LEA Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan. Parents of students enrolled in Title I schools will be invited to serve on the LEA Title I Advisory Council to provide suggestions/revisions to the LEA Title I Parent Engagement Plan. The LEA will conduct an annual survey to evaluate and analyze the results to determine improvements for the subsequent school year. Revisions will be made according to participant recommendations in accordance with the requirements of Sect. 1116 of this plan. The revised plan, as well as a summary, will be available on the district and MPS Federal Programs' websites. Hard copies will be made available upon request.

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.

The Office of Parental Engagement will continue to combine resources and efforts to plan and implement parent and family engagement activities. Principals or their designee will receive training on how to engage parents for learning, as well as assistance with developing, implementing, and reviewing all required plans. Parent liaisons/designees will receive monthly training on a variety of topics such as: providing virtual learning support to parents; developing parents as leaders, effective communication with parents; and attendance awareness. The Parenting Specialist will visit Title I schools to assist with planning and conducting parent meetings, including the Annual Parent Meeting, workshops, and other parent engagement events/activities. The LEA will also provide resources for parents and families as needed or requested.

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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.

Programs such as Pre-K and HIPPY will be included in all communication from the Office of Parental Engagement. Any materials and resources shared with Title I schools will also be shared with these programs. There will be ongoing collaboration with the coordinator of Migrant Education as well as the facilitator for Bilingual Services. The Federal Programs Director will approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities to include transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related parent meetings and/or parent training workshops.

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)

Barriers to greater participation by parents in activities such as technological deficiencies, parents' lack of comfort, teachers' misperception about parents' abilities, and tension in relationships between parent and teacher will be eliminated, if possible, by engaging school staff in research-based professional development. Most literature disseminated by schools for parents will be in an easy-to-read format in both English and Spanish. Additional translation and interpretation services will be utilized as necessary. Schools will provide systematic communication to parents through weekly newsletters, flyers, and other means of written communication. In addition, all media outlets, including social media, radio, and television, will be used to inform parents of important events. Schools will also use the School Messenger automated phone system to share information. Other community and district entities will communicate to parents at organized meetings designed to share information and build a sense of community through shared experiences. These may include PTO meetings, Family Nights, and assemblies. School administrators will be encouraged to live-stream parent meetings and/or make recordings that can be shared virtually at a later time. Teachers will be encouraged to use apps that allow them to connect with parents who are unable to come to the school for meetings or conferences, or other school-related events. Schools and district staff will collaborate to create "non-traditional" opportunities for parents to participate in the education of their child.

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

Title I schools will host meetings (virtual or in person) that will focus on a variety of topics pertinent to assisting parents in understanding state and academic standards, school curriculum, and state assessments as well as how to monitor their child's progress. The LEA will strongly encourage parents to gain access to the PowerSchool Parent Portal so that they can always be informed of their child's attendance, grades, and discipline. Schools will offer a "Tech Day/Night" training for parents on how to use the parent portal and other digital platforms such as Clever and Schoology. Schools will develop and implement an organized structure to have parent conference opportunities where instructional staff can share student progress. The LEA will continue efforts to improve teachers' and administrators' knowledge of parent engagement during district meetings and professional development opportunities.

(iii) strategies to support successful school and family interactions

School-based parent liaisons/designees will work to address the needs of their parents and foster school and family interactions that support student academic growth by developing training workshops and collaborative activities for engagement. District-wide events will be planned that will allow positive school and family interactions. These may include parent-student learning events with a focus on reading and math, a parent resource fair, and a summer learning expo. School administrators will be provided with a list of required and suggested activities that support school and family interactions throughout the year.

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.

The LEA will continuously research best practices and strategies to engage parents and families. The Office of Parental Engagement will collaborate with school administrators, parents, and the school-based parent liaison to create evidence-based strategies for a more effective parent engagement policy. At least one in-service training will be held for new teachers on how to partner with families to implement parent programs/activities and how to effectively communicate and work together as equal partners. Results from the Annual Title I Parent Survey will be used to evaluate and adjust strategies as needed.

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.

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The LEA will establish a Parent Advisory Council for the purpose of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy. Title I schools will also establish a school-based Parent Advisory Council to develop, revise, and review the school's Annual Continuous Improvement Plan, Parent-School Compact, and any other plan or document requiring parental input. Members will include school-based parent liaisons, parents, teachers, school administrators, district-level personnel, and community members. The PAC will meet at least twice a school 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.

All schools will host an open house or orientation to inform parents of academic standards and expectations. In addition, Title I schools will host the Annual Title I Parent Meeting. Schools will develop and implement periodic parental engagement activities to inform parents about curriculum, grade level standards, academic expectations, and assessment programs. The LEA will also host parent meetings/events at various times and locations in order to offer parents alternative venues and means for learning about their child's academic progress and needs. Parents will receive an academic progress report at the midpoint of each grading period, along with results of quarterly formative assessments. Parent-teacher conferences to review a child's academic progress will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for the parent and the school. Schools will conduct parent training curriculum workshops and parent data meetings in the areas of math, reading, and science, to help parents understand academic standards and expectations.

H. Describe how it will provide materials and training to help parents 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.

All Title I schools will hold parent meetings (virtually or in person) at least quarterly. Any materials relevant to improving a child's academic achievement will be distributed to students to share with parents. Title I schools will also offer parent workshops throughout the school year. The LEA will also support schools in hosting workshops for parents on a variety of topics, including literacy, technology, bullying, suicide prevention, attendance awareness, and transitioning from one school level to the next. These workshops may be in the form of Math and/or Reading Nights or STEM/STEAM Nights, etc.

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.

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Each Title I school will develop a Parent Advisory Council, which will be inclusive of a diverse group of parents who have students currently enrolled in that school. Professional development focusing on parents as partners and building parents as leaders will be held during the school year for school representatives, instructional support personnel, and other school leaders as requested. Parent liaisons will collaborate with teachers to help build and sustain ties between parents and the school.

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.

Programs such as Pre-K and HIPPY will be included in all communication from the Office of Parent and Family Engagement. Any materials and resources shared with Title I schools will also be shared with these programs. There will be ongoing collaboration with the coordinator of Migrant Education as well as the facilitator for Bilingual Services. Transitional activities will be available through the Office of Academics and Accountability. The LEA will also provide, through district-wide events, resources for parents for summer enrichment opportunities, assistance with registrations, and take-home backpacks/manipulatives, which provide learning materials for the student when assisted by the parent.

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.

The Title I Program ensures that all parents of Title I students receive information and school reports. Notices of school programs, meetings, or other activities will be published on each Title I school's website and/or school handbook, displayed on school's marquee if available, activated through the School Messenger phone system, and/or announced over the school's PA system at a time when parents are present such as morning arrival or afternoon dismissal when appropriate. Social media and other tech services will be used to promote parent engagement opportunities as well as parent meetings. Translators will be provided through the office of Bilingual Services upon request. Interpreters will be provided as needed. Correspondences will be shared in the language most appropriate for students.

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

Parents will have the opportunity to make suggestions to the school via the website, email, or the school's suggestion box. Parents will also be able to voice concerns or make suggestions during parent meetings. Schools will invite parents and families to focused educational activities such as Virtual Learning Assistance, Family Literacy Nights, parent workshops on testing, monitoring their child's progress, and academic standards. Parents may also contact the Office of Parental Engagement to express concerns or request support. The LEA will direct parents to the appropriate personnel to address individual issues.

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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.

Surveys regarding the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators will be provided to parents, and the results will be used to improve the effectiveness of such training. Parents will be able to provide input at school-based parent meetings.

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.

The LEA may provide funds to facilitate literacy training if the local LEA has exhausted all other reasonably available sources. Title I schools will make a written request to the program director for assistance. In addition, local funds such as donations may be used to extend literacy training.

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.

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 upon a written request from the local LEA.

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

The LEA will host monthly parent workshops so that parents trained as parent leaders can enhance the involvement of other parents. Parent Liaisons will receive monthly training on how to solicit parents as partners and sustain a strong parent presence. District-wide learning sessions may be held throughout the school year to provide training to parents. Representatives from the local and state PTA organizations will also provide guidance in this area.

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.

The LEA will offer flexible meeting times to maximize parental attendance. Phone calls from teachers or other educators will be made to parents to share information when parents are not able to attend school meetings. Schools may offer themed meetings such as “Lunch and Learn” or “Coffee and Conversation” sessions for parents at various times throughout the day. Virtual options and recordings of meetings will be encouraged.

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

The parenting specialist will research best practices and model approaches to improving parental engagement and implement practices and models appropriate for the district. The district will continually engage in a review of model programs and approaches that are documented in schools across the region and nation to glean best practices and consider those during the annual revision process.

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.

The LEA will establish a district-wide parent advisory council by requesting each Title I school principal to submit the name and contact information of a parent who may be willing to serve on the council. This group will review the district's Parent and Family Engagement Plan and offer suggestions for strategies for all students.

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

The Office of Parental Engagement will work to develop roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities based on the needs of the school. The LEA will consistently collaborate with community organizations to support the needs of its schools, especially special populations such as those that fall under McKinney-Vento and EL programs. Community leaders and business partners will be invited to serve on committees and join parent meetings hosted at Title I schools.

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.

The LEA may offer workshops on parenting to help families learn about child development and how to support students' academic learning. Parenting workshops will cover a number of different issues, such as children's language development and learning styles, parent nurturing and discipline strategies, child abuse prevention, and nutrition and health practices. The LEA may also offer hands-on training opportunities or conduct home visits that help parents support their children's learning at home. These sessions offer ideas to families about how to help students with curriculum-related activities, homework, and other academic decisions and planning. All parents will have an open opportunity to participate in all services and programs provided by the school as well as the district.

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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 responses received from parents selected by their principal to participate in the revision of this document. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1, 2025.

PLAN APPROVED BY *(Person or Entity)*	**DATE OF APPROVAL**