



## **Clinton City Schools District Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Clinton City Schools 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(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The **Clinton City School District** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- CCS will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1116, CCS will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, Clinton City Schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of families with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, 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 families understand.
- If the district plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the families of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the state department of education.
- CCS will be governed by the following definition of family engagement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:  
Family engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
  - (A) families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - (B) families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - (C) families 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; and
  - (D) other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA.

## JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The **Clinton City School District** will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

- CCS will meet annually with the Family Engagement Advisory Team to review the Engagement Policy and determine any changes or additions to better support the engagement of all families within the district. CCS will offer virtual participation during the time of COVID-19 to ensure families have the ability to participate and provide input.
- CCS encourages every family to be active in his or her child's ~~PTO~~/PTCC.
- CCS annually surveys their families and parents to ensure their voice in decisions are heard.
- CCS provides parent/family opportunities to develop topics for future Family Engagements through the annual survey and an open door policy to suggestions.
- Family and parents serve on a wide variety of school and system-wide committees: CPAC, School Improvement, District Improvement planning, Textbook adoption committees, Healthy School Teams, and Special Education Advisory Councils, and Family Engagement Advisory Team.
- Family and parents are encouraged to bring concerns to the teacher, building level administrator, or Central Office.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Clinton City School District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement 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:

- CCS will ensure the designation of resources to assist in communicating with parents and family information in their native language that will support the education of all families. The EL teacher has the capability of translating any documents necessary. Translators will be provided as necessary.
- CCS will provide child care or transportation for meetings (as needed).
- CCS will coordinate as needed with individuals or outside agencies to support families in their abilities to work with their child academically. Guidance counselors maintain a document with support services in the area.
- CCS will make a good faith effort to convene an annual meeting at a convenient time to which all parents and family of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend to inform them of their school's participation in and requirements for Title I programs and of their rights to be involved.
- CCS will design and conduct an evaluation process whereby parents can share their ideas about the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of schools receiving Title I funds, and the plan designed to implement it. The findings in the annual evaluation shall be utilized to design strategies for school improvement and for revising this policy if necessary.
- CCS will pay particular attention to reaching and involving those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of a racial or ethnic minority background.

## ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Clinton City School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by families in activities (with particular attention to families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The evaluation will also include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

The District is responsible for designing and conducting an effective annual evaluation process whereby parents can share their ideas about the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of schools receiving Title I funds, and the plan designed to implement it. The findings produced by the annual evaluation shall be utilized to design strategies for school improvement and for revising this policy, if necessary.

### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

The Clinton City School District will involve the parents and family members 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 and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

### **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

The Clinton City School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs that encourage and support families in more fully participating in the education of their children. CCS will coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners to provide additional supports and resources. Examples of other agencies might include but are not limited to TEIS, Head Start, public preschools, Department of Children's Services, Anderson County Health Department, and others as are feasible and necessary.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS**

The **Clinton City School District** will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build families' capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help families work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents and families in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging state 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; and
- How to work with educators.

The district will provide this assistance through the following activities:

- CCS individual schools will provide an annual meeting in the fall to describe the school's participation in the Title I, Part A program. The meeting will explain the rights of families to be involved and how to offer feedback on the implementation and usefulness of the Parent Engagement Plan. The individual schools will include parents and family members in the planning, review, implementation, and improvement of the parent and family engagement district policy, plan and programs.
- CCS will provide information regarding content standards, assessments and student achievement through each individual school. Meeting times will be offered multiple times to support families in understanding individual student reports.
- CCS will provide parents with information about attendance, grades, and discipline through their Open House events at each school. Information will also be made available online through the district website.
- CCS will provide each parent a secure username and password to the Parent Portal to view student information and grades.
- CCS will host Family Nights throughout the year with a focus on literacy, math, and STEAM.
- CCS will provide parent-teacher communication about student progress and curriculum standards through two annual parent-teacher conferences, 8 formal student progress reports to family and parents, email and phone conversations, and an open door policy with building level administrators.
- CCS will utilize school activities to inform family and parents of ways to become more engaged in their child's educational progress.
- CCS will allocate each school funds to be used for school specific Family Engagement activities.
- CCS will provide a newsletter each month outlining ways to help students at home.
- CCS will link textbooks on the district website along with other websites that can support student learning.
- CCS will communicate with families through a monthly progress monitoring report the progress and type of intervention a student is receiving within their school day.
- CCS will communicate through the schools any and all school activities offered as either enrichment or remedial that are offered for student support.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

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

- CCS will seek, adopt and implement model approaches in improving family engagement.
- CCS will develop appropriate relationships with community-based organizations and businesses in family engagement activities.

## **ADOPTION**

This district parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the agenda, sign in sheet and minutes from the Advisory Committee Meeting on \_\_\_\_\_.

This policy will be presented for adoption by the Clinton City School District to be in effect for the period of the 2020-21 school year pending a period of review by all stakeholders. The school district will distribute this policy to all families of participating Title I, Part A children on or before .

**DRAFT**