



CASTLEBERRY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Wide Family Engagement Plan 2013-2016

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- Castleberry Independent School District (CISD) agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:
- The District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation of parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level family engagement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The District will incorporate this district wide family engagement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I Part A family engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the District and its schools will provide full opportunities 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 ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of the 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.
- The District will 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 family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of family engagement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
 - *family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—*
 - *That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;*
 - *That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;*
 - *That 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;*
 - *The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*
- The District will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW CISD WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

1. CISD will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide family engagement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - *Site Based Decision Making Teams on each campus*
 - *DEIC Meetings*
 - *Strategic Planning Committee*
 - *Annual Public Meeting for Federal and State Funding*
 - *District Family Engagement Committee*
2. CISD will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - *Site Based Decision Making Teams on each campus*
 - *DEIC Meetings*
 - *Annual Public Meeting for Federal and State Funding*
 - *Strategic Planning Committee*

3. CISD will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance that may include the following:
 - *Family Reading Night*
 - *Family Math Night*
 - *Counselor/Parent Meetings*
 - *Parent Trainings/Programs*

4. CISD will coordinate and integrate family engagement strategies in Part A with family engagement strategies under the following other programs:
 - *Title II*
 - *Title III*
 - *Local Funds*

5. CISD will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this family engagement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in family engagement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its family engagement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective family engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its family engagement policies.
 - *Strategic Planning Committee*
 - *Site Based Decision Making Teams on each campus*
 - *DEIC Meetings*
 - *Annual Public Meeting for Federal and State Funding*
 - *District Family Engagement Committee*

6. CISD will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
 - a. CISD will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph—
 - i. The State's academic content standards,
 - ii. The State's student academic achievement standards,
 - iii. The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - iv. The requirements of Part A,
 - v. How to monitor their child's progress, and
 - vi. How to work with educators:
 1. Six Weeks Report Card in English and/or Spanish
 2. Translation available for parent/teacher meetings and forums
 - b. CISD 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 family engagement by:
 - *Family Reading Nights*
 - *Family Math Nights*
 - *Parent Training*
 - *Saturday School Parent Participation*
 - c. CISD will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals 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 through trainings, programs and conferences.
 - d. CISD 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:
 - *English and Spanish versions of all parent correspondence, public information and report cards, and translator available upon request.*
 - *Translation at parent meetings and use of translation headsets.*

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The following are discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and District to support their children's academic achievement:

- *Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;*
- *Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;*
- *In order to maximize family engagement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;*
- *Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving family engagement;*
- *Establishing a district wide parent involvement committee which includes parents to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs;*
- *Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in family engagement activities; and*
- *Providing other reasonable support for family engagement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.*