



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
Washington-Wilkes Elementary School
2018 -2019
Revision Date 04/10/2018

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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 is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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 schoolwide 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 schoolwide 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

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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.

- The Parental Involvement Policy and Compact will be distributed at the beginning of the school year in student handbooks.
- A schoolwide meeting will be held in October to distribute the policy and allow for parent suggestions.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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 schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- Schedule title I Parent Meeting in October and April
- Meeting with be scheduled in the morning and evening in order to provide 2 times for parent to attend meetings.
- Notify parents of meeting using the following methods: School calendar, website, marque, Schoolway, Notices Sent home with students.

COMMUNICATIONS

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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:
- Title I Parent meeting scheduled in October and April. Providing two times (Morning and Evening) for parents to attend.
- Notices sent on school calendar, parent connections, Schoolway, school website, school marquee, and flyers.
- School council Meetings – 4 times per year.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Washington-Wilkes Elementary will take the following actions to 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.

- Provide parents the opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions at Annual Title I Parent Engagement Meeting
- Parent survey results will be utilized to revise the compact.
- Staff will have input on revisions.
- Student survey results will be utilized to make revisions.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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:

- Washington Wilkes Elementary School will work with community services, school based programs, and other programs in schools, when feasible, to improve student achievement, promote parental involvement, promote family literacy, and provide opportunities for smooth transition to school and to support the instructional program.
- Washington Wilkes Elementary will continue to develop partnerships with agencies who provide services to children and families through Title I. We will strive to coordinate with community services such as Headstart, the Wilkes County Health Department, the Department of Family and Children Services, the Family Connection Communities in Schools, Wilkes County Emergency Management Agencies, Washington-Wilkes Parks and Recreation, and Wilkes County Sheriff’s Department.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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

- Washington Wilkes Elementary School involves parents in school activities in a variety of ways. (Various luncheons for each grade level, PTG programs, Academic Nights, Family Fun Events, Annual Christmas Program, Honors Day, Field Day, Water Day, Color Run, parent conferences)
- Parent workshops are scheduled to provide materials to help with academic areas, distribution of newsletters, and websites that include tips for working with children at home.
- Meetings and/or workshops are held to provide assistance to participating parents in understanding such areas as Georgia's content standards and student performance standards, the school improvement and corrective action process, components of a school wide Title I program, state and local assessments, or the requirements of Title I, Part A.
- Information is provided to parents through meetings, workshops, or printed documents so that parents understand the ways they can monitor their children's progress and work with educators to improve the performance of their children.
- Parents are informed of ways that they can participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.
- Washington Wilkes Elementary School plans various school activities to include parents in school activities. These activities are documented through Parent Contact Records. Meetings involving parents are scheduled in the morning and evenings to maximize opportunities for parents to participate in school related activities.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Washington-Wilkes Elementary 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:

- Provide professional development to staff on communicating with parents.
- Provide educational articles to staff about parent communication
- Schedule designated times for parent conferences.

Washington-Wilkes Elementary will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Using information gained from surveys to plan family engagement activities
- Title I Parent Input meeting
- PTG Meetings
- School Council Meetings
- Informing office personnel of requests and suggestions