



Parent and Family Engagement

Ridgecrest Elementary School

Huntsville City Schools

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Introduction

All Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Schools must complete the following diagnostics: the Stakeholder Feedback Diagnostic, the Parent and Family Engagement Diagnostic, the Coordination of Resource/Comprehensive Budget Diagnostic, and EITHER the Title I Targeted Assistance Diagnostic OR the Title I Schoolwide Diagnostic. Parent Survey must be done annually, but it can be done electronically or by paper.

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Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved. (Sec. 1116(c)(1))

An annual Title I meeting for parents is held each September to discuss the criteria for being a Title I School. The meeting agenda consists of funding, parent engagement opportunities, curriculum, assessment, and Parents-Right-to-Know. The meeting is conducted twice to meet the needs of our parents, and is also conducted in English and Spanish.

Describe: 1) How there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement; 2) How parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making.); and 3) How funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school. (Sec. 1116(c)(2)(3))

Our parent engagement coordinator will offer meetings at various times to meet the needs of parents. Child care and transportation will be provided when possible. Notices will be sent home to all students inviting parents to attend. During the Title I advisory committee meeting, parents will have an opportunity to review the plan, school-parent compact, and the Title I budget. For parents who are unable to attend, the parent coordinator may send home a survey to elicit feedback. Title I parent engagement funds are utilized to secure a school parent coordinator.

Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children. (Sec. 1116(c)(4)(A)(B)(C))

- * Title I informational pamphlets in front office
- * Workshops are offered for parents
- * Parent/Teacher conferences- once per semester, and additionally as needed
- * Both written notices and SchoolCast phone call notices are sent out
- * Parent and Family Engagement flyers are sent out in English and Spanish

Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated). (Sec.1116(d))

Each year, our School-Parent Compact is reviewed and updated by a committee of parents. This compact is given to parents in both English and Spanish. Each teacher, parent, and student signs the compact. Teachers maintain possession of the compacts and they are used to

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guide parent/teacher conferences throughout the year.

Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan. (Sec. 1116(c)(5))

Parents can submit comments/dissatisfaction about the Continuous Improvement Plan by bringing them to their child's teacher or submit written comments to the office staff. Parents may also comment upon the CIP during review meetings held during the year.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (Describe)

Ridgecrest builds parental capacity by providing parent/teacher conferences throughout the year to address concerns with individual learners. The school maintains an active PTA to help keep all parents informed about the school and their child's education. Written notices will be distributed in order to notify parents of opportunities. Phone calls, newsletters, Facebook posts, the Ridgecrest website, Twitter etc. are also available to help keep parents informed and engaged.

Parents are invited to all Title I workshops and Literacy classes, offered by the School Parent Coordinator. Surveys are sent home inquiring as to the needs of parents. Parents in our Pre-K classes volunteer in their child's classroom to get a first-hand look at how their child is performing. Our school parent coordinator will be working to solicit volunteers for classrooms and special activities (Kite Day, Field Day, etc.). We have money allocated in our budget to purchase supplies that may be helpful for parents in response to the information gathered by the school parent coordinator.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school 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. (Describe)

Ridgecrest holds monthly parent parties, PTA meetings, annual open houses, and other gatherings/events to help build ties between the

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parents, community, and school.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.(Describe)

Ridgecrest maintains a parent resource section in the school library and in the main foyer of the school. These resources cover a broad range of parenting skills. We have revived our Adult English classes and we coordinate with District Federal Programs and EL Department to make our parents aware of broader offerings to help them better help their children in school. A Lending Library will be created to help further develop and home school literacy connection.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall 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. (Describe)

All information on school functions, activities, delays and closings, etc. is sent to parents in both English and Spanish. We communicate with our parents in various ways including Schoolcasts, weekly newsletters, the school sign, Facebook, Twitter, flyers, and the school website.

Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (Describe)

Ridgecrest seeks to accommodate any reasonable requests that we receive. We fulfill such requests through parent conferences, workshops, meetings, and by providing resources as necessary.

Describe how the school will ensure the provision for 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), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (See ESSA Sec. 1117(f))

We provide information in parents' preferred language, when possible, when communicating verbally or in writing. The school utilizes district translators in most school meetings and events and translate all school communication.