Dove Creek Elementary School
Parent and Family Engagement Plan
2019-2020
Revised August 14th, 2019

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). 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 it is incorporated into the school’s plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The school will adhere to the following as required by law:

● 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 (as applicable) under Section 1114 (b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
● 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 parental involvement 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 ESEA 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 (if applicable) under Section 1114 (b)(2) of the ESEA 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 and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

(A) That parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.
(B) That parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school.
(C) That parents and family members 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parent and family engagement will be used.

- All parents, family members, and community stakeholders will be invited and encouraged to offer feedback on the Targeted Assistance Plan, Parent & Family Engagement Plan, and the School-Parent Compact. Draft documents will be posted on the DCES website for stakeholders to review and comment.
- All DCES Title I Documents will be shared and discussed with parents at the annual Title I parent meeting(s).
- All DCES Title I Documents will be revised annually by the principal, assistant principal, and the Title I teacher using parental input.
- The finalized policy will be posted on the school website. Paper copies will be provided at parent request.
- All parents will be informed of the complaint procedure at the Annual Title I Meeting.
- A school compact will be sent home annually as a home/school agreement about the importance of student success.
- An annual survey will be distributed to parents to rate the effectiveness of our Title I Program and to provide feedback on ways the Title I program could be improved.
2. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to conduct annual meeting(s), at a convenient time(s), 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 or Targeted Assistance plan, and the school-parent compact.

- Parents will be invited to view all proposed 2019 - 2020 Title I documents via the DCES website and provide feedback by email, phone, and/or meeting(s).
- Parents will be invited to attend the Title I Parent Policy Feedback meetings on August 12th, 2019 at 9:00 AM. AND August 13th, 2019 at 3:00 PM. At these meetings parents were given an additional opportunity to provide feedback on the 2019 - 2020 document proposals. Parents who do not attend will be encouraged to provide feedback by emailing their suggestions.
- The DCES Annual Title I Parent Informational Meetings will be held on August 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM and August 20th at 5:00 PM. and At this meeting, the Title I Program and related documents will be discussed and shared with parents. We will offer free childcare to TA students and siblings during the 5:00 P.M. meeting so parents can attend.

3. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.

- DCES teachers will conference with TA parents at least once during the school year with at least one conference being face-to-face. In the event a parent is not able to conference face-to-face, then a phone conference can be substituted. Should a phone conference be requested by parents, the teacher(s) will schedule a mutually agreed upon time to conference by phone. Parents may request a conference at any time to discuss their child’s progress.
- Parents will also be provided access to school staff through the following: teacher’s email address available in newsletters and on the DCES website, voicemail messaging on classroom telephones, and daily communication agendas.
- Parents will be offered free childcare for the 2019 - 2020 evening Annual Title I Meeting scheduled for August 20th at 5:00 PM.

4. The **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to provide parents and family members of participating children the following:
- Timely information about the Title I program.
● Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

● 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 practically possible.

● Parents will be invited to view all proposed 2019 - 2020 Title I documents via the DCES website. Feedback may be provided by email, phone, or at the Parent Input Meeting(s) on August 12th at 9:00 AM and August 13th at 3:00 PM. The DCES Annual Title I Parent Meetings will be held on August 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM and August 20, 2019 at 5:00 PM. At that time parents are given the opportunity to understand and ask questions regarding the 2019 - 2020 Title I Targeted Assistance Plan, School-Parent Compact, and the School Parent & Family Engagement Plan.

● DCES teachers will conference with TA parents at least once during the school year with at least one conference being face-to-face. In the event a parent is not able to conference face-to-face, then a phone conference can be substituted. Should a phone conference be requested by parents, the teacher(s) will schedule a mutually agreed upon time to conference by phone. Parents may request a conference at any time to discuss their child’s progress.

● Parents will be provided with frequent reports on their child’s progress using, but not limited to, the following:
  * MAP results will be shared Fall, Winter, and Spring.
  * Progress reports will be issued quarterly on an as needed basis.
  * Progress monitoring data gathered through the RTI process will be shared as needed or requested.
  * Weekly Friday Folders with graded assignments.

A. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will offer two way communication and information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities 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 that parents can understand through the following methods
  ● Email
  ● Agendas
  ● Friday Folders
  ● Phone calls
  ● Face to face conferences
5. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents and family members 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 Title I parents the opportunity to rate the effectiveness of the current Title I program by completing an annual survey.
- The results of the Title I parent survey will be used to assess the effectiveness of the Title I program. Survey results and open-ended feedback will be used to make revisions to the Title I program.
- Parents are invited to view the proposed 2019 - 2020 School-Parent Compact on the DCES website. Feedback will be welcomed by email, phone, or at the Parent Input meeting on August 12th at 9:00 AM and August 13th at 3:00 PM.
- The DCES Annual Title I Parent Meetings will be held on August 19, 2019 at 9:00 AM and August 20, 2019 at 5:00 PM. At that time parents are given the opportunity to understand and ask questions regarding the 2019 - 2020 Title I Targeted Assistance Plan, School-Parent Compact, and the School Parent & Family Engagement Plan.

6. The **Dove Creek Elementary School** will build the school’s, parents’, and family members’ capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the school, parents, family members, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below.

B. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- The challenging academic standards of the State.
- 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.

Dove Creek Elementary School will communicate with parents of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet through the following:

- The Annual Title I parent meeting
- Regular parent/teacher conferences scheduled by the parents or teachers to discuss specific interventions implemented to match each student’s academic needs.
- Monitoring by the Title I teacher and school coordinator
- MAP Assessment Parent Reports
- Title I Parent Institute Newsletter
- Parent notification with a letter describing the Pyramid of Interventions / RTI (Response to Intervention) Process.
- Curriculum Night
- School agendas
- Friday Folders
- PowerSchool
- Itslearning Platform

All documents that are necessary for parents to understand the Title I program, will be translated into Spanish and other languages as practicable upon request. Upon identification, interpreters will be provided for face-to-face meetings and/or upon parent request. An over-the-phone interpretation service, called Language Line, is available for phone communication with parents who are not proficient in English. Finally, the schools and the district will strive to ensure that all documents are written in clear, jargon-free language that parents can understand.

B. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will provide materials and training to help parents and family members to work with their child to improve their child’s achievement, such as math skill training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:

- The Title I teacher will share math strategies for parents through a newsletter(s) and, or informational pamphlets.
- Teachers will support parent’s understanding of school initiatives as well as providing parents complimentary parent education meetings on how to support their child(ren) at home.
- Parents will be provided Math MAP growth reports and strategies on how to support their child(ren) at home.

C. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents and family members as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and family members and in how to implement and coordinate parent and family engagement programs and build ties between parents, family members, and the school by:

- The DCES Title I Teacher will lead staff development twice a semester focusing on family-school partnerships, best practices and strategies for supporting students through strengthening family engagement and support.
- All DCES Faculty and Staff will receive continuous communication in the form of emails with links to articles, online training modules, tip sheets,
handouts, brochures, and/or website resources regarding parent engagement.

D. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents and family members in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- DCES school personnel, working with federal programs (Title I-A, Special Education, ESOL,) will combine efforts to involve parents for student success. At the system level, a federal programs paraprofessional is in place to assist parents of Migrant students, Immigrant students, and parents of English Learners. A Parent Mentor is employed by the school system to assist parents of children with disabilities. The DCES school counselor and assigned social workers support parents of all students as well.

E. **Dove Creek Elementary School** will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent and family engagement programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents and family members 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:

- All documents that are necessary for parents to understand the Title I program, will be translated into Spanish and other languages as practicable. Upon identification of parental need and/or request for information in another language or in another format, the school will take steps to ensure that the parent need and/or request is fulfilled.

  - Letter, flyer, and newsletter translation
  - interpretation services for parent conferences and/or Parent Trainings
  - Use of Language Line services for interpretation

F. The **Dove Creek Elementary School** will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request by:

- Child care will be provided for parents of Title I students to make it more convenient for them to participate in the meetings at the school. Meetings and conferences will be scheduled at a variety of times to maximize opportunities for parents to participate. The Title I teacher may also be able to arrange in-home conferences with parents if they are not able to come to school to meet.
PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
POLICY COMPONENTS

The Oconee County School District may provide opportunities to build parents’ and family members’ capacity for engagement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as some or all of the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1118 (e) of the ESEA:

- Involving parents and family members in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training
- Providing necessary math skill training for parents and family members from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities including child care costs, to enable parents and family members to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Training parents and family members to enhance the engagement of other parents and family members
- Maximizing parent and 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 and family members who are unable to attend those conferences at school
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- Establishing a LEA parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement

Oconee County Schools District Parent and Family Engagement Plan 2019 - 2020 is outlined and available for review at:

PART IV. ADOPTION

This school parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents of children participating in the Title I, Part A program, as evidenced by copies of invitations to participate, meeting sign-in sheets, and copies of emails.

This policy will be adopted by the Dove Creek Elementary School following the Title I Parent Input Meeting on August 12, 2019 and August 13, 2019. This policy will be in effect for the period of one year. The school will have this policy available for public viewing on the DCES
website and parents of participating Title I, Part A children may view or obtain a copy by request on or before October 31, 2019.

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