



Richard Woods,

Georgia's School Superintendent "Educating Georgia's Future"

# Building a Meaningful and Comprehensive Parental Involvement Policy for Your School

Title I, Part A Parental Involvement
Webinar Series
February 17, 2015

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Interim Program Manager
Parent Engagement Program
Georgia Department of Education

## Developing a Policy/Plan?



"That's how we have always done it."

"Just use the same one that we used last year."



## Plan is Not a Four Letter Word



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Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan

Schoolwide Plan

School Improvement Plan

**Targeted Assistance** 

Flexible Learning Program







#### **Quality Family Engagement Programs are:**

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#### **SYSTEMIC**

is purposely designed as a core component of educational goals, such as school readiness and student achievement

#### **INTEGRATED**

Embedded into
structures and processes
including professional
development, teaching
and learning, community
collaboration, and the
use of data for
continuous improvement
and accountability

#### SUSTAINABLE

Will have adequate resources, including public-private partnerships, to ensure effective strategies with the power to impact student learning and achievement

THE CHALLENGE

Lack of opportunities for School/ Program Staff to build the capacity for partnerships

Ineffective Family-School Partnerships Lack of opportunities for Families to build the capacity for partnerships



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#### OPPORTUNITY CONDITIONS

#### **Process Conditions**

- Linked to learning
- Relational
- · Development vs. service orientation
- Collaborative
- Interactive

#### Organizational Conditions

- Systemic: across the organization
- Integrated: embedded in all programs
- Sustained: with resources and infrastructure

### POLICY AND PROGRAM GOALS

To build and enhance the capacity of staff/families in the "4 C" areas:

- Capabilities (skills and knowledge)
- Connections (networks)
- Cognition (beliefs, values)
- Confidence (self-efficacy)

#### FAMILY AND STAFF CAPACITY OUTCOMES

#### School and Program Staff who can

- Honor and recognize families' funds of knowledge
- Connect family engagement to student learning
- Create welcoming, inviting cultures

Effective
Family-School
Partnerships
Supporting Student
Achievement
& School
Improvement

### Families who can negotiate multiple roles

- Supporters
- Encouragers
- Monitors
- Advocates
- Decision Makers
- Collaborators

US ED
The Dual CapacityBuilding Framework
for Family-School
Partnerships

Developing High Impact Strategies

### Think About...

## ...a Syllabus



- Guide yearly progress
- Identify key dates
- Ensure standards being taught
- Revised each year



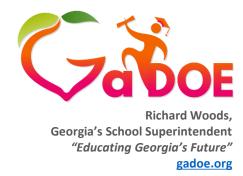
Every good teacher develops and utilizes a syllabus to meet standards and objectives

### Today's Lesson Plan



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- Understand what the School Parental Involvement Policy must address, describe, and contain
  - See how to develop the School Parental Involvement Policy
- Learn strategies to get parent input and ideas to distribute policies



...describe the purpose of the parental involvement policy along with information about your Title I program?

...describe how all parents will be involved in the development of the school parental involvement policy?



Provide a brief overview of Title I and its purpose, as well as what is included in the school parental involvement policy.

Ensure all parents have the opportunity to provide input on the school parental involvement policy by providing several attempts and ways for parents to provide feedback.

#### School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

#### what is it?

This is a plan that describes how Oak Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Oak Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Oak Elementary will support parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.



Oak Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum last spring to review and revise this parental involvement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school Web site for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental

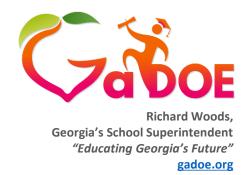


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### Sample Policy and Guide

	Does the School Parental Involvement Policy:	Section of Title I Law	To make the policy more effective:
pelo bed	①A Describe the purpose of the parental involvement policy along with information about the Title I program.	1118(b)(1)	Provide a brief overview of Title I and its purpose as well as what is included in the school parental involvement policy.
Jointly De	Describe how parents will be involved in the development of the school parental involvement policy.	1118(b)(1)	Ensure all parents have the opportunity to provide input on the school parental involvement policy by providing several attempts and ways for parents to provide feedback.

2C



...describe how all parents will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parental involvement programs?

...describe how the school will provide parents with the opportunity for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate in decision making regarding their child's education?

...describe how all parents will be involved in the development of the schoolwide plan?



Develop and describe multiple opportunities throughout the year for parents to provide input and participate in decision making.

List the specific opportunities that exist for parents to provide input on the schoolwide plan.

Parent Input	②A Describe how parents will be involved in the	1118(c)(3)	Develop multiple opportunities
	planning, review, and improvement of parental		throughout the year for parents to
	involvement programs.		provide feedback and suggestions.
	2B Describe how the school will provide parents	1118(c)(3)	Provide parents with multiple
	with the opportunity for regular meetings to	1118(c)(4)(C)	opportunities to provide suggestions
	formulate suggestions and participate in decision		and participate in decision making.
	making regarding their child's education.		
	②C Describe how parents will be involved in the	1118(c)(3)	<ul> <li>List the specific opportunities that</li> </ul>
	development of the schoolwide plan.		exist for parents to provide input on
			the schoolwide plan.

#### how is it revised?

Oak Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum last spring to review and revise this parental involvement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school Web site for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our annual Community Cares event.







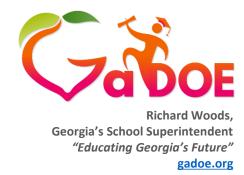
### Sample Policy and Guide

#### School Forum - May 2, 2015

✓ A forum for parents to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the schoolwide plan, parental involvement policy, school-parent compacts and the parental involvement budget.



...Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, as well as the parents' right to be involved?



Describe how the school will offer a flexible number of Title I Annual Parent Meetings at various times and in varying formats

Describe how parents will be involved in the design and delivery of the Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Offer a meeting in a central location, outside of the school, in the neighborhood

### Sample Policy and Guide



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Oescribe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the requirements of Title I and the school's participation, as well as the parents' right to be involved. 1118(c)(1)

 Describe how the school will offer a flexible number of Title I Annual Parent Meetings at various times and in varying formats.

#### Annual Title I Meeting – September 5, 2014 & September 6, 2014

✓ We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. Invitations will be mailed and posted in the school newsletter and local media.



- ...Describe how the school will notify parents of the parental involvement policy in an understandable format?
- ...Describe how the school will provide parents with timely information about Title I programs?
- ... Describe how the school will offer parents a flexible number of meetings and transportation, child care, or home visits?



Ensure that necessary information is received by parents by providing updates in multiple ways.

Describe the various methods the school will use to communicate information with parents.

Develop and include a yearlong calendar that identifies key dates and events for parents

# Sample Policy and Guide W

#### Let's Get Together!

Oak Elementary will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. All meetings for parents will be held twice during the day in the morning before school and in the evening at 7:00 pm.

#### where is it available?

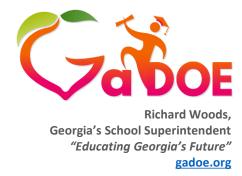
At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. As a reminder, we will mail the plan to all parents in August before the scheduled Open House event. The plan will also be posted on the school Web site. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.

4A

✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers



Notifications	OA Describe how the school will notify parents of	1118(b)(1)	Ensure that necessary information is
	the parental involvement policy in an		received by parents by providing
	understandable format.		updates in multiple ways.
	OB Describe how the school will provide parents	1118(c)(4)(A)	Describe the various methods the
	with timely information about Title I programs.		school will use to communicate
			information with parents
	Oc Describe how the school will offer parents a	1118(c)(2)	Describe how the school will offer
	flexible number of meetings and transportation,		multiple meetings at convenient times
	child care, or home visits.		for parents to increase participation



...Describe the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a schoolparent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement?



Work with parents to evaluate commitments and determine how successful each party was throughout the school year in honoring the compact

Utilize the compact as a tool throughout the school year to evaluate the compact process and to remind parents, students, and the school of their commitment to assist students in meeting district and school academic achievement goals



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School-Parent Sompact Describe the process the schools will follow to jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement. 1118(d)

 Work with parents to evaluate commitments and determine how successful each party was throughout the school year in honoring the compact.

5 School-Parent Compacts
As part of this plan, Oak Elementary and our

families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents,

students and teachers during the Community Cares event and the School Forum. The schoolparent compacts are kept with each child's teacher if parents need a copy. Sample Policy and Guide



... Ensure that the format and language of the policy are **family-friendly**?







Describe how district reports, letters, information, and materials will be available in a format and language that all parents can understand

Seek specific input from parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children to determine how the school can provide the best possible opportunities for all parents to be involved

#### Oak Elementary School

Parental Involvement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success 2014-2015 School Year





Oak Elementary School Dr. John Smiley, Principal 123 Tree Street (123) 456-7890

www.sampleschoolwebsite.com Plan Revised May 31, 2014

#### What is Title I?



Oak Elementary is identified as a Title I school as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards in reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title

> I schools must jointly develop with all parents a written parental involvement policy.

#### School Plan for Shared Student Achievement

#### what is it?

This is a plan that describes how Oak Elementary will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Oak Elementary values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Oak Elementary will support parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

#### how is it revised?

Oak Elementary School invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum last spring to review and revise this parental involvement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compact and the parental involvement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school Web site for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our annual Community Cares event.

#### who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Oak Elementary will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

#### where is it available?

At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. As a reminder, we will mail the plan to all parents in August before the scheduled Open House event. The plan will also be posted on the school Web site. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.



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## Sample

Policy

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6 Ensure that the format and language of the policy are family friendly.

1118(b)(1)

1118(f)

 Describe how district reports, letters, information, and materials will be available in a format and language that all parents can understand.



...Describe how the school will build parent capacity for strong parental involvement?

...Describe how the school will provide assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic standards, State and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with educators?



... Describe how the school will 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?

...Describe how the school will educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, 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?



... Describe how the school will coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs with Head Start, Reading First, Early reading first, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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 how the school will 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?

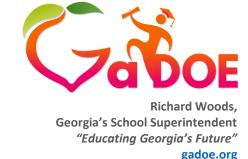
...Describe how the school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section?



Describe the various ways the school will implement procedures to build the school and parent capacity

Provide grade level educational workshops designed to help parents understand the corresponding subjects, assessments, and requirements

Develop parent guides and resources that align with the classroom instruction to bridge student learning with parent support at home



Create regularly scheduled, at least quarterly, staff development classes highlighting different ways that the school, families, and students can work together to obtain goals

Coordinate with the corresponding organizations to strengthen communication and enhance potential opportunities for parental involvement including providing information and resources to support school orientation for parents and students to assist in successful student transitions to school



Provide all parents with materials, correspondence and information in appropriate languages, according to the school population, and in a format that is family-friendly

Utilize the discretionary items described in Section 1118 to develop strategies to improve parent involvement. Provide opportunities for parents to request additional support and offer input on the improvement of parental involvement programs.

Describe how the school will build parent	1118(e)	Describe the various ways the district
capacity for strong parental involvement.		will implement procedures to build
		the schools' and parents' capacity.
OA Describe how the school will provide assistance	1118(e)(1)	Provide grade level educational
to parents in understanding the State's academic	1118(c)(4)(B)	workshops designed to help parents
standards and State student academic achievement		understand the corresponding
standards, State and local academic assessments,		subjects, assessments, and
Title I requirements, and how to monitor their		requirements.
child's progress and work with educators.		
Describe how the district will provide materials	1118(e)(2)	Develop parent guides and resources
and training to help parents to work with their		that align with the classroom
children to improve their children's achievement,		instruction to bridge student learning
such as literacy training and using technology.		with parent support at home.
Oc Describe how the school will educate teachers,	1118(e)(3)	Create regularly scheduled, at least
pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff,		quarterly, staff development classes
with the assistance of parents, in the value and		highlighting different ways that the
utility of contributions of parents, and in how to		school, families, and students can
reach out to, communicate with, and work with		work together to obtain goals.
parents as equal partners, implement and		
coordinate parent programs, and build ties between		
parents and the school.		
Describe how the school will coordinate and	1118(e)(4)	Coordinate with the corresponding
integrate parent involvement programs with Head		organizations to strengthen
Start, Reading First, Early reading first, Even Start,		communication and enhance potential
the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool		opportunities for parental
Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and		involvement including providing
public preschool and other programs, and conduct		information and resources to support
other activities, such as parent resource centers,		school orientation for parents and
that encourage and support parents in more fully		students to assist in successful student
participating in the education of their children.		transitions to school.
TE Describe how the school will ensure that	1118(e)(5)	Provide all parents with materials,
information related to school and parent programs,		correspondence and information in
meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents		appropriate languages, according to
of participating children in a format, and to the		the school population, and a format
extent practicable, in a language the parents can		that is family-friendly.
understand.		
<b>OF</b> Describe how the school will provide other	1118(e)(14)	Utilize the discretionary items
reasonable support for parental involvement		described in Section 1118 to develop
activities under this section.		strategies to improve parent
		involvement. Provide opportunities
		for parents to request additional
		support and offer input on the



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### Sample Policy and Guide

## Sample **Policy** Guide

#### Parent Math Night - October 10, 2014

✓ Learn how to make math fun at home.



#### Kindergarten Coffee House - November 7, 2014

✓ Parents will enjoy hearing the latest writing samples and curriculum updates.

#### Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences - October 1, 2014 & February 15, 2015

√ Scheduled updates on your child's progress.

#### Taste of Curriculum Night - October 21, 2014

√ Sample a little bite from the different areas of your child's academics.



#### Technology Talk - January 17, 2015

✓ Catch up with the latest resources to help support your child's learning.

8B



#### Lunch n Learn - Monthly

✓ Gain knowledge about topics relevant to your child's education.

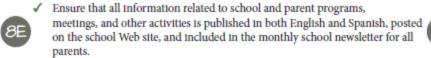


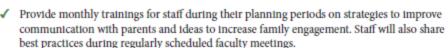
#### Community Cares Fair - March 15, 2015

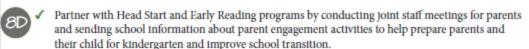
✓ Connect with the school and community to build a better school and review school plans.

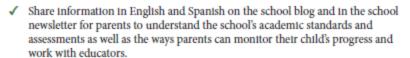
#### Oak Elementary is Branching Out!

Oak Elementary will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:





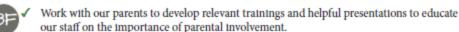






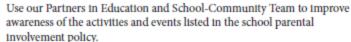


Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.

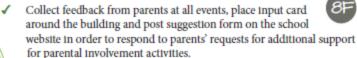








Offer literacy and computer classes for parents to help further enhance their various educational levels.

















## Parent Input... ...in Multiple Ways



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- Frame the Conversation
- Align with School Improvement
- Evaluate Activities and Strategies
- Collect Feedback
- Use Technology



## Policy Distribution... ...in Multiple Ways



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- Student Handbook
- Website
- Parent Packet
- US Mail
- Parent Resource Center
- Take Home Folder
- Annual Title I Meeting
- Local Newspaper
- School Newsletter
- Front Office







### **Documentation**



gadoe.org

#### 1. School Parent Involvement Policy and Plan

- ✓ Labeled with school name
- ✓ Labeled with current school year and revision date (M/D/Y)
- ✓ Contains all parent involvement policy requirements

#### 2. Agendas and Sign-in Sheets

- ✓ Labeled with school name, location, date, and time of meeting
- ✓ Meeting agenda contains School Parent Involvement Policy as either purpose of meeting or a detailed item as part of meeting
- ✓ Sign-in sheets with signatures and roles defined (i.e. parent)

### **Documentation**



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#### 3. Minutes/Evaluations/Feedback

- ✓ Labeled with school name and meeting purpose
- ✓ Labeled with location, date, and time of meeting
- ✓ Record of parent, student, teacher feedback on policy
- ✓ Pictures/Video/Survey

#### 4. Communications (Meeting Announcements/Sharing)\*

- ✓ School/Community newsletter, flyers, or letter to parents
- ✓ Emails, call logs, website, social media, video announcements
- ✓ Parent-teacher conferences, school events, or parent meetings

\*Must show evidence that ALL Title I parents were invited to provide input in the development/revision of the school parental involvement plan

### **Helpful Reminders**



- ✓ School Year
- ✓ Revision Date (M/D/Y)
- **✓** Distributed in Multiple Ways
- **✓** Multiple Opportunities for Parent Input





### Contact Information



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## Questions?