

**Pelham City Schools
LEA
Title I Parent Involvement Plan
2016-2017**

Revised June 8, 2016

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The Pelham City School System recognizes the importance of, as well as the legal requirements for, implementing programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents of participating public and private school children in the Title I program. Our system provides quality curriculum and instruction in supportive, effective, and motivating learning environments, thus affording each student the opportunities to meet local and state student performance standards. This Parent Involvement Plan, correspondence, and planned activities include students living in any residential facilities in the Pelham City Schools attendance area.

Part I. The Pelham City School System agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- A. The school 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 with parents of participating children.
- B. Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work within its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement plans 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.
- C. The school district will incorporate this district-wide parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- D. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district will provide information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, upon request, will include alternative formats in a language parents understand to parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents with limited literacy, and parents of migratory children.
- E. If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school system will submit any parent comments along with the district plan to the State Department of Education.
- F. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent, and will ensure that not less than 95% of this reserve goes directly to schools.
- G. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects its Title I schools to carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

- 1. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- 2. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- 3. 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;
- 4. the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

Part II. Description of how district will implement required district-wide parental involvement plan components:

- A. The Pelham City School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA.
 - Hold Parent Chats which invite all parents and community members to provide input into the parent involvement plans, compacts and Title I documents for the school year.
 - The joint group will be organized for the purpose of developing the Title I LEA plan under section 1112.
 - The first Parent Chat will be held in the fall with follow-up meetings to be held on a regular basis.

- Needs assessments and discussions will be held to establish goals and objectives.
 - Parents and community members will be given the opportunity to provide input regarding to activities, training, and materials used in the Title I plan.
 - Revisions will be made to the plan as necessary and distributed to students in each school. The Title I Director will advise parents about the Title I program and the rights and responsibilities of parents. Parents of participating students will have opportunities for involvement in the plans, development, and operation of the Title I program.
- B. The Pelham City School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA.
- Notices will be sent inviting participation toward improving the instructional program.
 - Brainstorming sessions and discussions will provide an exchange of ideas from parents about successful and challenging activities, practices, and areas of need which should be addressed.
 - Parents will be involved in the revision of local plans when required.
 - During the spring of the year, a system-wide Title I meeting will be held.
 - Information will be disseminated to parents and staff informing each of annual assessment results and progress made toward meeting student performance goals.
- C. The Pelham City School System will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- Pelham City Schools will provide technical assistance and other support necessary to assist in planning and implementing an effective parental involvement program.
 - Technical assistance will be provided through Southwest Georgia RESA, Georgia Department of Education consultants, content area consultants or other agencies such as area colleges and universities.
 - Workshops and activities will be scheduled throughout the year as necessary.
 - Copies of the Title I Parent Involvement Plan will be distributed and discussed with each school principal.
- D. The Pelham City School System will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I Part A with parental involvement strategies in the Pelham City Pre-K Program.
- Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator and parents will work together to plan and conduct parent workshops and training programs whenever feasible.
 - Feedback from parents and staff will be gathered in an evaluation process.
- E. The Pelham City School System will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include indentifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement 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 parental involvement, to revise, if necessary, its parental involvement process.
- Pelham City School System will use the findings of the evaluation in designing strategies for school improvement and revising, if necessary, the parental involvement plan and school parent involvement plan.

- The annual evaluation will include a checklist or assessment to be completed by each school.
 - Each school will make a compilation of responses/answers and forward these to the system Title I Director.
 - Results will be shared with the Leadership Team and to parents at parent meetings.
 - The findings reflected in the evaluation will be provided to parents at the annual Title I meeting.
 - Revised plan will be offered to parents of participating students.
- F. The Pelham City School System will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective interaction among schools, parents, and community. This partnership is designed to improve student academic achievement, through the following specifically described below:
1. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents in understanding the following topics by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:
 - The State's academic content and student performance standards
 - The State's student academic achievement standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - School improvements and corrective action process, if applicable
 - Components of a schoolwide program, if applicable
 - Ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve the performance of their children
 - Ways parents can participate in decisions relating to the education of their children

Pelham City School System will address these issues through system-wide dissemination of newsletters and workshops held on a regular basis. The importance of communication between teachers and parents will be addressed on an ongoing basis through: parent-teacher conferences in schools, frequent reports to parents on their children's progress, reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities. Parents can also access the Parent Portal, available on our school website, to help parents track student academic progress, as well as behavior and attendance.

2. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training (such as literacy training and using technology) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, as appropriate, and to foster parental involvement. Parent Connection Classes and the Parent Involvement Resource Center will assist parents in gaining necessary skills to help improve their children's academic achievement. Also, the Parent Involvement Coordinator will seek to find local community resources to further help parents receive the training they need.
3. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, to recognize the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs that build ties between home and schools.

This process will be accomplished through annual staff development presentations to all school faculty to help faculty recognize the value of parents and their role in education. Also, the Parent Involvement Coordinator will seek outside resources to educate faculty in this matter whenever possible through collaboration with local community organizations and materials.

4. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement activities and other public and pre-school programs, such as Parent Involvement Resource Centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

When feasible, the Pelham City Schools' Title I Parent Involvement Coordinator will work to plan and conduct parent-training programs. Newsletters, notices, and letters will be used to inform parents of all meetings and workshops concerning parent training. The Remind text messaging system for Parent Involvement Program is available for parents to access.

Workshops will be designed to aid parents in areas such as child development, childrearing issues, discipline alternatives, and drug education.

The Parent Involvement Parent Involvement Resource Center (PIRC) will be located at Pelham Elementary School and will contain materials to make games, books, pamphlets, videos, and tapes for parents to check out for at-home use with their children. The Parent Involvement Resource Center also has computers with Internet access for parent use to assist parents in enriching their own, as well as their families' education. The PIRC hours of operation: Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 8-11 a.m. & Thursday 12-4 p.m.

5. The school district 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.

Parent suggestions and ideas will be used to drive the planning of Title I parent activities and workshops, as well as Title I documents, through the annual parent surveys, evaluations of all parent involvement activities, parent suggestion box, and Parent Chat meetings.

Part III. Discretionary District-wide Parental Involvement Plan Components:

- A. Pelham City School System 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 home and school.

Professional learning activities and workshops for teachers and staff members will provide insight in how to build home-school partnerships.

- B. Pelham City School System will develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities, by providing information about opportunities for organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools. The purpose of this step is the formation of partnerships between elementary, middle, and secondary schools and local businesses that include a role for parents. Activities such as role modeling, volunteering, and mentoring through the Parent Involvement Resource Center and other appropriate and feasible organizations will be carried out between schools and local businesses.
- C. The Parent Involvement Coordinator through the Parent Involvement Parent Involvement Resource Center will provide other appropriate and feasible opportunities for parents to learn about child development and child rearing issues beginning at the birth of a child. These skill building opportunities or workshops are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their children. Various meetings/workshops will be held at all three Pelham City Schools as well as in the PIRC.
- D. Pelham City School System will ensure, to the extent possible, that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the homes of participating children in the language used in such homes or through the use of an interpreter in providing such information to parents. Information relating to these issues is also posted on the school website and is available in all three school offices.
- E. Pelham City Schools will establish a district-wide parent group to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement Title I, Part A programs.