



# The School District of Palm Beach County Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

## A PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS

The School District of Palm Beach County is committed to engaging families and the community as equal partners to assist with providing a world-class education with excellence and equity that empowers each student to reach his or her highest potential.

Each year the School District of Palm Beach County reviews its plan for supporting Title I schools and families in building strong partnerships that help students succeed in school.

Key points from the District's 2020-2021 Parent and Family Engagement Plan are included in this newsletter.

The entire plan can be viewed on the District's website under the Students & Parents tab and on the Federal and State Programs page.

## WHAT IS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT?

Family Engagement in schools is an intentional partnership between families and school personnel to support student success by working together in conventional and unconventional ways. This includes ensuring:

- that schools recognize and appreciate the important role that families play in supporting a child's learning at home;
- that all families are encouraged and supported so they are engaged in their child's education; and
- that families are full partners and have opportunities to be included in decision-making.



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## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A TITLE I SCHOOL?

Title I schools receive additional federal funds to provide supplemental programs to support students' instructional needs, to build strong family supports, and to ensure teachers receive training in effective teaching practices.

For more information on what Title I means at your child's school, please call the school's Title I contact, or call the District's Department of Federal and State Programs at (561) 434-8056.



## COORDINATED SUPPORT

Title I Schools receive support from many other District departments to support family engagement. Schools coordinate programs with:

- ◇ Early Childhood Education
- ◇ Teaching and Learning
- ◇ Migrant Education
- ◇ Exceptional Student Education (ESE)
- ◇ Safe Schools
- ◇ Support Services
- ◇ Multicultural Education
- ◇ Homeless Education
- ◇ Educational Technology
- ◇ Communications & Engagement

## ENCOURAGING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Title I schools offer families the opportunity to have their voices heard and to contribute to the decision-making process.

Title I schools ensure families feel welcomed, appreciated, and included. Title I schools ensure families are able to attend decision-making meetings, workshops or trainings, and other family events by:

- sending out timely notices of training/meeting dates and times;
- offering flexible dates and times;
- offering meetings virtually or by phone;
- making accommodations for physical challenges (examples include audio enhancement, printed materials, handicapped parking);
- providing childcare at parent trainings (contact your child's school to find out if this is offered at your school);
- providing Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese translation services; and
- recognizing and celebrating the families that make up the school community.

## HOW THE DISTRICT SUPPORTS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN TITLE I SCHOOLS

The District works closely with schools to provide training for teachers, school administrators and staff so they, in turn, can deliver strong family engagement programs at their schools. Examples of District and school family engagement efforts aimed at building strong programs are listed below.

- Stakeholders input meetings for the review and writing of the Schoolwide Plan, Family Engagement budget, Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and the School-Parent Compact
- Needs Assessment meetings with families, school personnel and the community to discuss school data and plan for programs to support students
- School Advisory Council and Parent Teacher Association meetings
- Family Engagement contacts at the school level
- Parent Resource Centers at select schools
- Title I Annual Meeting at schools
- Technical assistance and trainings for Title I contacts and Family Engagement contacts, including how to host virtual family engagement events
- Family, business, and community partnerships that benefit families
- Staff trainings that support research-based family engagement strategies and practices that support student achievement for learners at home or in school
- Partnerships with other departments to conduct family training events that provide information on the tests students must take in each grade level and tools to help families support learning
- Resources and materials to support Kindergarten readiness
- Title I website for schools with updated resources to support family engagement initiatives