



# ESSA & Title I

## Parent and Family Engagement Policy



The ESSA and Title I Office values the parents and families of Prince George's County Public Schools.  
*If you have questions or comments, please contact the Title I Office at (301) 618-8390*

## What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the **Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)**.

The purpose of the Title I program is to ensure all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and support students to meet or exceed proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments.

Title I grant funds are used solely to help ensure that children, regardless of family income, may acquire an equitable and quality education that will allow students to become academically proficient on challenging state standards and state assessments.

All Title I schools benefit from centralized program services that include instructional support, professional development, technology support, and parent and family engagement initiatives.

## General Expectations

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) recognize the necessity and value of parent and family engagement to support student success, optimal development, and academic achievement. In order to ensure collaborative partnerships among schools, parents and community, all Title I schools will implement the following standards:

- A. Demonstrate a commitment to parent, family, and community engagement in the education process;
- B. Interact with parents and families so they are engaged in their child's education and assume a vital role in ensuring success in school for their child(ren);
- C. Address concerns of parents, family and community members through formal and informal procedures;
- D. Provide opportunities for parents, family, and community members to participate in decision making related to district-wide and school-based issues;
- E. Offer training and provide materials to help parents and families monitor and support the academic achievement of their children (i.e. literacy and technology). Materials and information sent home to parents shall be provided in a clear and understandable format and language;
- F. Establish effective two-way communication with families, respecting the diversity and differing needs of families;
- G. Comply with the requirements of ESEA related to parent, family and community engagement, including
  1. Planning and operating programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents consistent with Section 1116 of ESEA and;
  2. Conducting an annual review of the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan

### ***Prince George's County ESSA and Title I Department***

The PGCPSS ESSA and Title I Department is part of the Division of Accountability. The goal of the department is to ensure all schools are effectively implementing a Title I program in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regulatory guidance. The ESSA & Title I Department will be recognized for providing supplemental resources and managing grant funds that support Title I students for college and career readiness. An outcome of the mission is to enhance the partnership between home, school, and community. The ESSA & Title I Department will:

1. Provide families and community members opportunities to be part of a shared decision making process of district-wide issues via surveys, virtual sessions, parent and community engagement forums, Parent- Family Advisory Council, and/ or District Back to School Fairs by reviewing and giving input into PGCPSS:
  - a. ESSA and Title I District Parent and Family Engagement Policy and evaluating the content and effectiveness of the Plan
  - b. Title I Parent and Family Engagement Funds
2. Coordinate and collaborate with other federal programs (Head Start, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Special Education (SPED) representatives to:
  - a. Meet regularly to dialogue on issues and topics regarding parent and family engagement
  - b. Coordinate and integrate strategies for strong engagement;
  - c. Participate in the planning of parent & family events/initiatives as participants or presenters and
  - d. Offer reasonable support for parent and family engagement (i.e. childcare)
3. Convene an Annual Title I Orientation to inform parents of the Title I program.
4. Eliminate barriers and increase accessibility by providing documents to parents in both English and Spanish (other languages as requested) and offer flexible meeting times.
5. Coordinate Title I workshops for families, educators and community members to build capacity that links school and home learning to support a successful home-school interaction.
6. Provide support to the Title I schools to implement the Parent and Family Engagement Plan (e.g. staff, professional development).
7. Assist Title I schools in educating school staff with parental assistance and feedback regarding how to reach out and communicate with parents as equal partners.

## We want to hear from YOU...

**Parent, Family and Community Engagement** is very important and affects student achievement. Research shows that when a student's parent or guardian is engaged, the student is more successful in school.

You have just read the ESSA & Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan for helping and supporting schools in their efforts to encourage and promote parent engagement. Please sign below to indicate that you have received this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

We would greatly appreciate your comments or suggestions.

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Please tear off and return this section to your child's school. Information shared will be forwarded to the ESSA & Title I Office for consideration during the annual plan update process.