

Parent and Family Engagement

1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved. (Sec. 1116(c)(1))

The annual Title I meeting was held in September to inform parents of the school participation in Title I. Parents receive notification of the meeting through emails, phone calls, remind text, school marquee, and flyers sent home. Topics discussed at this year's meeting include the Title I requirements including the 1% set-aside, Title I programs and services, the Continuous Improvement Plan, and the School -Parent Compacts. This year the meeting was offered through zoom, recorded, and available for view at anytime.

2a. Describe how there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

The staff at DAR Middle School has a strong belief in the importance of parental involvement. We utilize parent conferences before, during, and after school hours. We stay in contact with parents through letters home, e-mail, phone calls, the school website, zoom meetings, Remind text, Facebook, and the school marquee. We also use our calling system to keep parents better informed.

2b. Describe how parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making).

Parents have the opportunity to serve on our Leadership Team and attend meetings. Parents have the opportunity to give input and take part in decision making involving our Continuous Improvement Plan as well as provide feedback on the plan. Surveys and needs assessments are given often. Meeting notices are communicated with parents via Facebook and our BlackBoard messaging system.

2c. Describe how funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school. (Sec. 1116(c)(2)(3)).

Notecards were purchased stressing the importance of attendance at school. Paper and stamps were also purchased to send out information through mail outs. We believe that the mail options reach all students. The effort in these actions are to reach parents with good news and opportunities for involvement.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

(Sec. 1116(c)(4)(A)(B)(C))

At an annual meeting, DAR Middle School parents attend an informational assembly in which Title I program information, the curriculum, and the types of academic assessments pertinent and specific to the academic success of a middle school child is presented. The school makes every effort to provide information on all meetings, reports, parent notices, etc., in both English and Spanish for parents of our EL students. A translator is available to come out and provide assistance to parents who need help understanding the paperwork or for communication purposes. Upon conclusion of the general parent assembly, break out sessions with teachers will be available.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated). (Sec. 1116(d))

DAR Middle School, under the guidance of the Marshall County Board of Education, provides annual school-parent compacts. The compacts developed by the school leadership team which consists of school staff, parents, and a community representative. All DAR Middle School parents are asked to sign the compact signifying their commitment to working in partnership with the school and their child to ensure success in school. Additionally, the principal conducts a faculty meeting explaining the teacher responsibility for student success in school. Teachers, in turn, explain the compact to the students and obtain the students' signatures, which substantiate student's responsibility in their own school success.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan. (Sec. 1116(c)(5))

Each year DAR Middle School's Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee reviews, evaluates, and revises the plan. The CIP committee includes two parents who are actively involved in the community and have a working knowledge of the daily operation of the school. During CIP process all parents are given several opportunities to provide input regarding the revision of the plan and may express their dissatisfaction with any aspect of the plan. A copy of the CIP is made available to parents through the school office, the school library, and via the school website. The CIP is shared with parents at the Title I Night.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall 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, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

DAR Middle School will accomplish most of this requirement at its annual parent night. Parents will receive an overview of the state academic content standards, academic achievement standards, and assessment results. An explanation of Title I in school services will be explained. Parents have the right and are encouraged to be involved in their children's education. The parent night provides DAR Middle School parents needed information and affords parents the opportunity to meet the faculty and staff of the school. Classroom teachers are available for questions and explanations about individual classroom/teacher requirements. Marshall County Schools provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, appropriate to foster parental involvement. The System-Wide Advisory Council which includes the Parent Advisory Council meets two times a year to discuss the effective use of the parental involvement funds. Marshall County Schools will educate its teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and other staff in how to reach out to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school 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.

DAR Middle School believes that parenting skills are to be promoted and supported. Our goal is to inform and train parents/guardians in order to enhance the home environment and increase student achievement. Our objectives are to provide opportunities to learn about school programs and policies, to identify parenting skills, and provide training opportunities. Parental needs survey, and open door visitation policy, and parental information opportunities such as an open house. DAR Middle School also believes that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning. Our goal is to bridge the gap between parental involvement in student learning.

6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.

DAR Middle School invites all parents to an annual meeting at the school to explain the School Wide Plan. The objectives included in this explanation are the benefits and activities, federal guidelines, and the role of all parents in the education of their children. We seek parental input to form a partnership with the parents. Numerous opportunities are available throughout the school year for parent participation including all policy and planning committees. Parents and/or guardians are invited to tour the school, meet the faculty, and ask for general information regarding the school and its procedures during Orientation or Open House. Parents are encouraged to arrange conferences with teachers at any time. Teachers make themselves available before and after school and during their planning time. Parents may take these opportunities to express any concerns they may have regarding their child's education. Sometimes classes will have the opportunity to go on field trips. Parents may be asked to attend these field trips as chaperones. The media specialists may invite parents or guardians to assist in the school book fair held in the fall and spring of the year.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall 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.

DAR Middle School's goal is to inform and train parents/guardians in order to enhance the home environment and increase student achievement. Our objectives are to provide opportunities to learn about school programs and policies, to identify parenting skills needed, and to provide training opportunities. We have an interpreter who communicates with parents of different ethnic backgrounds to meet their needs. The Migrant Program provides family services in accordance with state law to help families avoid social isolation and to provide necessary information on local services and agencies.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children. (See ESSA Sec. 1116, requirements for building capacity and parental and family engagement).

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

DAR Middle School makes every effort to provide information on all school meetings, reports, parent notices, etc., in both English and Spanish for the parents of our EL students. A translator is made available to provide assistance to parents who need help understanding the paperwork. The translator is also available for parent conferences and telephone conversations.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family

members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (See ESSA Sec. 1117(f))

DAR Middle School makes every effort to accommodate parents with and without disabilities and special needs. DAR is a handicapped accessible campus. Teachers at DAR Middle School make every attempt to schedule appointments around the needs of all parents. This includes, but is not limited to, interpreters when necessary, after/before school conferences, conference calls, etc. Additionally, many forms of communication are utilized to inform parents of school activities: school website, BlackBoard messaging, zoom, e-mail, and Remind text.