

Bedford County Public Schools

2020-2021

District Wide Parental Involvement Plan for Title I Part A

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Bedford County Schools agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- 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.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with 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.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- 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 district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their children's learning;*
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's education at school;*
- (C) that parents are full partners in their children's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their children;*
- (D) that other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA, are part of the active practices of schools.*

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

1. **Bedford County Schools** 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:
 - School-wide Title I schools will convene an annual meeting at each Title I school within 30 days of the start of school. Two meeting times will be scheduled for parents, one during the day and one in the evening. School staff will be involved in encouraging parents to attend.
 - Information about curriculum and assessment will be given to all parents at the annual meeting.
 - Information about services funded by Title I will be provided to all parents at the annual meeting.
 - Schools will make the information available to parents unable to attend the annual meeting.
 - Each school will designate at least two parents, one of which is not a school employee, of Title I students who will serve in an advisory capacity for school and/or district committees to meet at least twice a year.
 - Parent information related to Title I will be available to parents via the division and school websites, in addition to being disseminated in print.

- Information related to Title I will be disseminated at other school and community functions.
 - PTA/PTO groups will be asked to collaborate in developing activities and to serve as a forum for providing information.
2. **Bedford County Schools** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
- Meetings in which Title I parent advisory designees are involved will be open to all parents.
 - School-level meetings will allow parents to review public data with school staff and to provide input to assist schools in modifying and updating school plans.
3. **Bedford County Schools** 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:
- Each individual school will receive a budget for parental involvement activities using Title I funds. The principal in coordination with appropriate stakeholders will develop a plan for the use of this money to support parent involvement activities.
 - Bedford County central office and school staffs will provide a menu of activities aimed at assisting parents in supporting the academic success of their children. Activities included at one or more schools will include make-and- take workshops, curriculum informational sessions, and parent resource centers. Schools will explore the use of web-based reading resources to share with parents.
4. **Bedford County Schools** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:
- Bedford County Schools will work collaboratively with the local *Head Start Program*.
 - Each school will partner with the public library to encourage summer reading by sending home reading lists and information about the library's summer reading program.

- Bedford County Schools will operate Virginia Preschool Initiative programs for at risk four-year old children at Bedford Primary, Stewartville Elementary, Goodview Elementary, Moneta Elementary, Montvale Elementary, and New London Academy, which include a variety of opportunities for parents to learn and be involved in their children's education, including but not limited to home visits and parent participation in preschool events.
 - Bedford County Schools will coordinate a *21st Century Community Learning Centers* program at Moneta Elementary School. This program will include opportunities for parents' input and participation in their children's learning.
 - Each school will develop a series of family reading activities that are funded in part with Title I parental involvement funds.
 - Title I school staffs will collaborate with each elementary school's parent organizations in their annual activities to promote parent participation in the educational process.
5. **Bedford County Schools** 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 identifying 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 this evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its parental involvement plan.
- Bedford County Schools will conduct a parent survey each year in order to determine the level of participation and to identify barriers that have prevented participation. Surveys will be available in other languages if necessary.
 - Parent surveys will be sent to all Title I parents in paper and online format.
 - Each building principal will use the parent survey as baseline data for the upcoming year and establish a parental involvement participation goal for the next school year. Data will not share any references made about specific personnel.

- Data from the survey will be shared with all stakeholders. Data will not share any references made about specific personnel.
 - The plan will be reviewed yearly with parents and other stakeholders, and changes will be made as needed.
6. **Bedford County Schools** will build schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership of the schools involved, parents, and community for improving student academic achievement, through the activities specifically described below.
- A. By undertaking the actions described in this paragraph, the school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
- the state's academic content standards,
 - the state's student academic achievement standards,
 - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - the requirements of Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators.
- Bedford County Schools will establish dates on the school calendar for parent/teacher conferences.
 - School and individual teacher websites will provide information that may include daily schedules, class work, homework, school events, supply lists, and contact information.
 - The division's parental involvement plan will be available on the division website and will be provided at the annual meeting.
 - Dates for interim reports and report cards will be included in the student handbook and on the division website.
 - Information regarding how to access division curriculum and state standards will be available in each student handbook and on the division website.

- Principals of Title I Schools will use the Alert Now system to remind parents of important activities at the school.
- B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, and to foster parental involvement.
- School staff will develop family Literacy and/or Math Night activities.
 - Schools will make workshops and training sessions available to parents. These will be coordinated with other school programs.
 - Parental involvement newsletters will be distributed.
- C. Through the following steps the school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; in the value and utility of contributions of parents; and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs that build ties between parents and schools.
- The division will continue to focus on community outreach with administrators and supervisory personnel.
 - Each school will continue to focus on parent and community involvement, coordinating this effort with other school programs.
 - Staff will take advantage of Department of Education sponsored activities addressing parental involvement where appropriate.
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with *Head Start*, and *21st Century Community Learning Centers*, public preschool, and other programs; and will conduct other activities, such as providing parent resource materials or open house events, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
- Bedford County Schools will work collaboratively with the local *Head Start* program.

- Bedford County Schools will coordinate a *21st Century Community Learning Centers* grant program at Stewartville Elementary School, Big Island Elementary, and Moneta Elementary School.
 - Each school will partner with the public library to encourage summer reading by sending home reading lists and information about the library's summer reading program.
 - Bedford County Schools will operate a preschool program for at risk four-year old children which includes a variety of opportunities for parents to learn and be involved in their children's education, including but not limited to home visits and parent participation in preschool events.
 - Each school will develop a series of family reading and/or math activities that are funded in part with Title I parental involvement funds.
 - Title I school staffs will collaborate with each elementary school's parent organizations in their annual activities to promote parent participation in the educational process.
 - Parents will be encouraged and invited to visit classrooms.
- E. 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.
- Bedford County Schools will establish dates on the school calendar for parent/teacher conferences. The school calendar will be available on the division website and in the student handbook.
 - Principals of Title I Schools will use the Alert Now system to remind parents of important activities at the school.
 - Upcoming programs and events will be listed on the school and division websites.

- The division's parental involvement policy will be available on the division website and will be provided at the annual meeting.
- Dates for interim reports and report cards will be included in the student handbook and on the division website.
- Information regarding how to access division curriculum and state standards will be available in each student handbook and on the division website.
- Other avenues for disseminating information and soliciting feedback will be letters, newsletters, fliers, the Alert Now System, Facebook and classroom folders that go home weekly.

PART III. ADOPTION

This District-wide Parental Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by individual schools' parent involvement records.

This plan was reviewed and parent input was gathered from all Title schools and a parent representative on July 15, 2020. **Due to COVID 19 there will be no traditional Open Houses, face to face meetings, or PTA meetings with large groups of parents and families. The information outlined in this plan will be provided through the postal service, made available on the division website, Title I websites and social media. Any parental/family meetings will be held virtually.** This plan will be reviewed and updated annually through the process outlined previously in this plan. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 30, 2020.

Cathy L. Burks, BCPS Supervisor of
Federal Programs
(Signature of Authorized Official)

7/16/20

(Date)