



Cary Reynolds Elementary School Parental Involvement Policy

PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

2013-2014

Revised 09/18/13

School: Cary Reynolds Elementary School District/LEA: Dekalb County School District

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) (school parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The school will adhere to the following as required by law:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan under section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
- Update the school parent involvement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school and distribute it to the parents of participating children and make the parental involvement plan available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 and including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the school-wide program plan under section 1114 (b)(2) of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and 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 student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring –

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

- (C) 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;*
(D) carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. **Cary Reynolds** will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parental involvement will be used.

Inviting parents to school council meetings; Include parents in ongoing Title I committee meetings; Multiple ways of inviting parents were taken, i.e., website, parent calendar, announcement at School Council meetings; Provide information to parents in an understandable format, including alternative language other than English; Provide parents a home-school courier to go home daily with students.

2. **Cary Reynolds** will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend, to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements and the school parental involvement policy, the school-wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Meeting was held after 6:00 PM; Multiple ways of inviting parents were taken, i.e., website, parent calendar, principal announced meeting over loud speaker inviting students and their parents, marquee; Provide parents a home-school courier to go home daily with students.

3. **Cary Reynolds** will take the following actions to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

We schedule annual meetings at a variety of times throughout the school year; Parents are asked on Parent Surveys available times for meetings soliciting their feedback; We collaborate with local taxi company to provide taxi service to our annual Cross Keys Cluster Parent Conference.

4. **Cary Reynolds** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:
- Timely information about the Title I programs;
 - Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
 - Opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible;

Provide parents a home-school courier to go home daily with student; Inviting parents to school council meetings; Include parents in ongoing Title 1 committee meetings; Multiple ways of inviting parents were taken, i.e., parent calendar, website, announcement by principal over loudspeaker; Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities; Provide incentives to parents through our Parent Challenge program, including holding an annual Parent Challenge Dinner in April.

5. **Cary Reynolds** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

Parent Compact is reviewed and revised annually with parents; Multiple ways of inviting parents were taken, i.e., websites, parent calendar, principal announced meeting over loud speaker inviting students and their parents.

6. **Cary Reynolds** will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. **Cary Reynolds** will provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –
- 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

We conduct a series of Parent Academy Sessions at the beginning of the year demonstrating strategies for parents to use at home to support their children in all CCGPS core content areas (Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies); 2 Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled each semester to jointly discuss individual student achievement; We conduct our annual Curriculum Night for our parents to visit the classrooms to see what their children are learning; We host a standardized testing information session each year; We review the district's course syllabi at Curriculum Night and provide copies to parents.

- B. **Cary Reynolds** will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by;

We conduct a series of Parent Academy sessions at the beginning of the year for parents demonstrating strategies for parents to use at home to support their children in all CCGPS core content areas (Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies); 2 Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled each semester to jointly discuss individual student achievement; We conduct our annual Curriculum Night once each semester for our parents to visit the classrooms to see what their children are learning.

- C. **Cary Reynolds** will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, 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, and build ties between parents and the school, by:

We conduct Curriculum Nights each semester to share with parents what their children weeks are learning in the classroom; We invite parents to Parent/Teacher Conferences every 9 to jointly discuss individual student achievement; We provide interpreters at the conferences to reach those parents who are not fluent in English.

- D. **Cary Reynolds** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other 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, by:

We invite all parents of PK- aged children to our meetings and functions; We provide parent classes to every parent through MALDEF; We provide parents a home-school courier to go home daily with students for the purpose of maintaining an open line of communication for academic and social progress.

- E. **Cary Reynolds** 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:

Provide parents a home-school courier to go home daily with student; Inviting parents to School Council meetings; Include parents in ongoing Title 1 committee meetings; Multiple ways of inviting parents were taken, i.e., parent calendar, website, announcement by principal over loudspeaker; Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities; school and district documents are translated into Spanish

F. **Cary Reynolds** will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request, by;

*Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities;
Provide incentives to highly involved parents through our Parent Challenge program, including holding an annual Parent Challenge Dinner in April.*

We will use parent surveys to obtain feedback at the conclusion of each parent session or school event to improve the effectiveness of that particular event or training; We will provide parent classes through a program, MALDEF, that teaches literacy to Spanish-speaking parents; We provide information to the parents about Pearl Lane, a center that tutors, not only the students, but teaches English to their parents; We work closely with the local taxi company to provide transportation to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions; We will conduct meetings after 6pm to accommodate working parents; We will invite parents to join the school council, which will keep them abreast to all matters related to parental involvement in Title I programs; We will continue partnerships with local community businesses, including Barnes and Noble, Emory University, Georgia State University, Atlanta Silverbacks, Open Table Community Outreach, .