

Social Circle Elementary School	2022–2023
Family Engagement Policy	Revised July 29, 2022
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Asst Principal Mr. Michael Wright	770-464-2664
Family Engagement Coordinator Yolondias Colquitt	www.socialcircleschools.com

What is Family Engagement?

Family engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including:

- (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.
- (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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1010 of the ESSA

Strengthening Our School

This year, the family engagement coordinator (FEC) will provide assistance and support Social Circle Elementary School to ensure parental engagement requirements are being satisfied and that parent engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Social Circle Elementary School will receive notifications and resources from the district and the FEC to help them improve and strengthen family engagement. In addition to frequent communication and school visits, the district and the FEC will hold meetings and trainings with Social Circle Elementary principals and staff to review family engagement plans and activities. Additionally, the district will host a parent café in April for principals and the FEC to review parental engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the upcoming school year.

Jointly Developed

During the months of March, April and May all parents were invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the parental engagement policy for the 2022-2023 school year. All parents were invited to the meetings via flyers, DOJO, phone recordings, weekly/monthly newsletters, Facebook, school websites, and school marquee. Additionally, SCES used its School Council, leadership team, Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and PTO to review the parental engagement policy before the end of the school year.

Upon final revision, the parental engagement policy was incorporated into the CLIP which was submitted to the state. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time during the school year. All feedback received was included with the policy for this school year.

The district and school level parental engagement policy was posted on district and school websites, distributed on the first day of school, during the annual Title I school meetings, and made available in the schools' parent resource center, which is open Monday-Friday 7:30am-5:30pm.

Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Social Circle Elementary School, which is 100% highly qualified has developed this parental engagement policy with faculty, leadership, Parent Advisory Council/School Council, PTO and all parents that establishes the district's expectations for parental engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in Social Circle Elementary School. This plan will describe SCCS commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity and to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive parental involvement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plan, and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1010 of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to engage parents in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1010, the SCCS will work with Social Circle Elementary School to ensure that the required school-level parental engagement policy meet the requirements of Section 1010(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1010(d) of the ESSA.

Reservation of Funds

The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist Social Circle Elementary School in developing an adequate parental engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Social Circle Elementary School will host a variety of information sessions during March, April and May to request input from all parents and a needs assessment will be distributed to all parents in Social Circle Elementary School.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

SCES will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental engagement policy and the parental engagement activities to improve the academic quality of Social Circle Elementary through an annual parent survey and parent input meetings

During the months of October and April, Social Circle Elementary School will send home a survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parental engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the district and school websites for parents to complete. In addition to the fall and spring annual surveys, SCES will host parent meetings to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of parents and to design strategies for more effective parental engagement.

SCES will use the findings from all parental input and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective parental engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parental engagement policies.

Opportunities for Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend all meeting opportunities in order to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals. SCES has an open door policy and parents are encouraged to request a meeting at any time that the need arises. SCES will work with all parties involved to arrange a meeting at an agreeable time for all parties involved.

Parent input on the use of Title I funds to support parental engagement programs may also be provided through school surveys. The survey will contain questions related to the parental involvement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

If you are unable to attend these meetings? Please contact Yolondias Colquitt, our FEC (Family Engagement Coordinator) via email Yolondias.Colquitt@socialcircleschools.org or via phone 770-464-2664. Social Circle Elementary School has an open door policy and is always willing to meet with parents to accommodate various schedules of parents.

Accessibility

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements established by Section 1010 of the ESSA, the parent engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support Services to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

Building School and Parent Capacity

SCES will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following

- We will promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. Teachers, parents and students work together to form and follow the written compact that outlines how each will work together to achieve academic goals.
- We will involve parents in the development and annual review of the system level policy/plan under section 1010 of the ESSA and to provide a comprehensive range of opportunities for parents to become involved in the design, operation and evaluation of the Title 1 program through School Council, Parent Advisory Council, surveys, PTO etc. for parents to provide commendations, criticisms, suggestions regarding the Title 1 program. The Family Engagement Coordinator (FEC) will also distribute vital parent engagement information and opportunities for all parents to provide critical feedback for the successful integration of parental engagement strategies into all aspects of the education of our parents and students.
- We will involve parents in the process of school review and improvement through School Council, Parent meetings, surveys, PAC/School Council, open door policy.
- We will provide all parents information about the Title 1 program to assist them in understanding their child's eligibility for the program and the tenets of a school wide Title 1 program during the Annual Title 1 meeting, Title 1 brochures, school website and Parent Resource Center.
- We will support parents efforts by providing training and materials as needed (parenting workshops, literacy training, education/child development/health/safety information/ages and stages of development) so that they may effectively work with their children with their academics at home that have been taught at school, thus improving the whole child's overall achievement.
- We will coordinate and integrate parent engagement strategies in Part A with parental engagement strategies under the following other programs: Early Intervention Programs.
- We will provide necessary coordination, technical assistance, resources and other support to assist Title 1, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental engagement to improve student academic achievement and school performance, including training teachers, administrators and other staff members involved in the Title 1 program to work effectively with all parents.
- We will communicate and consult with parents (conferences, PTO meetings, Open Houses, Curriculum nights, Academic nights, parent volunteers, progress reports, report cards, weekly folders, agendas etc) on a regular basis so that each child's academic progress can be closely monitored at both school and home.
- We will conduct workshops for parents in such areas as understanding the National Educational Goals, Georgia's Performance Standards and student performance within the Georgia Performance Standards, school improvement initiatives, the Title 1 school-wide project, state and local assessments, expectations for involvement of parents for all students, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators.
- We will conduct, with the engagement of all parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental engagement policy in improving the quality of its Title 1, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental engagement 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, or who are parents of migratory, homeless, neglected or delinquent children). Social Circle Elementary School will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental engagement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the engagement of parents) its parental engagement policies.

Social Circle Elementary School Opportunities for Family Engagement

Due to COVID 19, our family engagement opportunities will look very different during this school year. We will send home more information on these dates as soon as the information is available. Thank you for your flexibility.

Adoption

This parental engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, and the school.

This policy was adopted by Social Circle Elementary School on July 29, 2022 and will be in effect for the 2022-2023 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 31, 2022.