



Margie M. Smith, Principal

School Parental Involvement Policy

2017 – 2018

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Title I, Part A, Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each school served under Title I, Part A, develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy/plan.

DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS:

Goal Area I: Student Success with Equity and Access Improve student's mastery of learning standards

The DeKalb County School District will increase the percentage of students scoring at the Developing Learner level or above on the Georgia Milestones Literature End of Grade (EOG) Assessment.

The DeKalb County School District will increase the percentage of students scoring at the Developing Learner level or above on the Georgia Milestones Math End of Grade (EOG) Assessment.

DeKalb Alternative School GOAL:

Increase the percentage of students scoring at the Developing Learner level or above by two percentage (2%) points on the Literature and Math Georgia Milestones End of Grade (EOG) and Georgia Milestone End of Course (EOC) Assessment for the 2017-2018 school year.

DAS Revision 09/26/2017

DeKalb Alternative School 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 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.

Parents are encouraged to attend Stakeholders Preplanning Input meetings in May and June to review the Parent Involvement Policy, Parent-Student-Compact, and 1% set aside and make suggestions based on student needs and school improvement goals. Parents are also encouraged to participate in the school's entire planning process throughout the year which includes but is not limited to: parent survey, parent forums, meetings with administration, and the leadership team, entry conferences, orientations, exit interviews and on-going individualized parent-staff/faculty conferences to ensure parents are able to provide input throughout the year on the dynamic DAS Continuous School Improvement Plan.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

DeKalb Alternative School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting in August 2017, which will be at a convenient time, encouraging and inviting all parents of DAS students to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program; an overview of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school's parental involvement policy, the school-wide Continuous School Improvement Plan, and the school-parent compact.

DeKalb Alternative School will hold its second Annual Title I meeting on September 25, 2017. DeKalb Alternative School is a Point-of-Entry Point-of-Exit School, therefore the information provided in this meeting will also be provided twice-a-week every Tuesday and Thursday at the scheduled entry-conferences and orientations, in order to properly accommodate all stakeholders.

COMMUNICATIONS

DeKalb Alternative School will provide parents of participating student(s) the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as Title I Parent Forums, Annual Meetings, Bi-Weekly Entry Conferences and Orientation (Tuesdays and Thursdays), and may provide with Title I funds, child care, as such services relate to parental involvement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

DeKalb Alternative School provide timely notices of Title I meetings, activities, and academic progress through the school website, Infinite Campus (Progress and Final Report Cards), Parent Portals, DAS and DCSD Newsletters, Flyers, Posters and Telephone Calls. This allows parents time to adjust their schedules for meetings and to be aware of their child's presentations and programs at school. Face-to-Face reminders are verbally given to parents on Upcoming Events when parents/guardians arrive and depart daily from the school...at the parent designated pick-up drop-off curbside as an additional means to communicate with all stakeholders. Curriculum Night is held at the beginning of each semester where administrators and teachers provide parents information about the New DCSD Curriculum, academic assessments used to measure student progress and testing data. Preplanning Parent Input meetings are provided twice a year at times which parents and stakeholders are able to respond to any suggestions or ideas they may have related to the education of their child. This information is then used to develop the school parent policy, school-parent compact, and the expenditures of the 1% Parental Set Aside of the DAS Title I Budget. We encourage our parents to become full participating stakeholders in the decision-making process. This is accomplished through building capacity with the DAS community.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

DeKalb Alternative School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The DAS School-Parent-Compact will serve as an additional means of communicating how the school and parents will strengthen the partnership between school and home to increase student achievement.

DAS Revision 09/26/2017

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

DeKalb Alternative School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent by:

Parents will have input in the creation of the expenditure of the DAS Title I Parental Involvement 1% Set Aside during the Preplanning Parent Input Meetings and Annual Title I meetings.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

DeKalb Alternative School will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

DeKalb Alternative School will provide four (4) Parental Engagement Forums two (2) each semester focusing on the New DCSD Curriculum and Instructional Strategies facilitated by DAS Students to support learning academically and social-emotional well-being at home. Parents are asked to designate a study location for their child(ren) to complete assignments or extended learning requirements. Parents are provided Tool-Kits that includes: a notebook, loose leaf paper, pencils, pens and a pamphlet with tips and strategies for parents to provide appropriate assistance in their child(ren) academic and social-emotional growth.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

DeKalb Alternative School will build the parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the New DCSD 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.
- Materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement

- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The Georgia and DCSD academic content standards.
 - The Georgia and DCSD student academic achievement standards.
 - The Georgia, DCSD and Local academic assessments including alternate assessments.
 - The requirements of Title I, Part A.
 - How to monitor their child's progress.
 - How to work with all Educators.

DeKalb Alternative School will provide increased parental involvement by providing the following:

- Parent input via feedback surveys at parent meetings throughout the school year
- Sharing parent feedback and information on the school web-site from surveys and parent input forms
- Parents can attend various school forums, meetings and conferences, which provide them a voice.
- The Title I Family Engagement Facilitator will provide workshop offerings throughout the school year to further encourage parents' ability to support their child's achievement.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

DeKalb Alternative School will provide training to educate the teachers, support pupil services personnel, administrators, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate, 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 doing the strategies listed below:

DeKalb Alternative School will conduct professional development learning meetings weekly. During these professional development sessions, staff members will discuss strategies and develop ideas to enhance communication, resource sharing, and enhance relationships with all DAS community stakeholders to increase student academic growth. In addition, the Title I Liaison/Assistant Principal will support the school by engaging DAS Leadership Team to develop professional learning opportunities based on feedback from parent input in order to strengthen ties between home, school, and community.

DeKalb Alternative School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request by:

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
POLICY COMPONENTS

- Encourage Parents to Enhance the Involvement of other Parents.
- Maximize Parental Involvement and Participation by empowering their Children as Facilitators of the Training and/or Program.
- Develop appropriate roles for Parents, Community-Based Organizations and Businesses in Parent led Activities.
- Engage Parents in active Learning Opportunities at the Four(4) Content DAS Title I Parent Forums
- Provide Study Tool-Kits and Training for Parents to work appropriately with their children at home.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including but not limited to child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Offer training to parents on using Parent Portal, On-line Computer Resources and Web-Sites

DeKalb Alternative School takes into consideration the time and resource constraints that our parents face. Parents are encouraged to conference with teachers after 3:00 p.m., because most of them work during school hours, we will hold evening conferences during the school year. Parents are also encouraged to communicate with teachers via Infinite Campus (Parent Portal). Parent workshops are held on different days and times throughout the year based on the data we received on the parent surveys. The School will collaborate with community based organizations to share school communications as well as parent engagement workshops based on parent feedback.