

DeKalb Alternative School  
*Parent and Family Engagement Policy  
for Shared Student Success*  
2019–2020 School Year



Margie M. Smith, Principal  
5855 Memorial Drive  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083  
Phone: 678-676-2302  
Fax: 678-676-2310

<http://www.dekalbalt.dekalb.k12.ga.us/>

*Policy Revised: 9/4/2019*

## What is Title I?

DeKalb Alternative School is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA). Title I is designed to support state and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging state academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.

## What is the Parent and Family Engagement Policy?

This is a policy that describes how our school will provide opportunities to improve parent and family engagement that will support student learning at school and at home. All students and their families are invited and encouraged to fully participate in the opportunities described in this policy. Our school will provide information and as many opportunities as possible for the participation of all parents and family members.

## How is the policy developed and revised?

The policy is jointly developed with parents, school staff, students, and community members. It is reviewed and revised annually during Title I Stakeholder's Input Meetings. A draft of the updated policy is available for additional input during the document review period. All feedback forms from the Title I Stakeholder's Input Meetings are submitted to the Title I Office for review. Opportunities are also available for all stakeholders to provide input into the Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP), School-Family Compact, building capacity of school staff, and the family engagement 1% set-aside budget.

## Where is the policy available?

The policy is available online on our school's Title I webpage located at <http://www.dekalbalt.dekalb.k12.ga.us/> Paper copies are available upon request in the front office. Families new to our school will receive a copy during the registration process. Residential facilities (Homeless, foster care, and neglected and delinquent) in our school's attendance area are included in our parent and family engagement correspondence and activities.

### Resources for Family Engagement

- Title I Stakeholder's Input Meeting 5/16/2019
- Entry Conferences & Orientation (2 per week)
- Curriculum Night 9/16/2019
- Annual Title I Parent Meeting 9/16/2019
- Title I Parent Forums: Math- Nov. 21, 2019; Social Studies-Jan. 23, 2020; ELA-Feb. 20, 2020; Science- Mar. 19, 2020.
- Parent Conferences throughout SY
- A & B Honors Program at End of each semester
- "A Better Me" or "Men of Distinction" Mentoring Groups

### Communication About Student Learning

Our school believes that families are full partners in their child's education. We will communicate with parents in various ways to include:

- Infinite Campus Parent Portal
- School Newsletter
- Phone calls & Emails
- Flyers and Letters sent home
- School website or Teacher website
- Parent Engagement Forums

Parent Teacher Conferences: Parents may request Parent-Teacher conferences by contacting the school at (678) 676-2302

## 2019-2020 District Goals

### Goals of DeKalb County School District

#### Goal Area I: Student Success with Equity and Access

- **Improve student mastery of learning standards**
- **Provide academically rigorous courses and/or pathways**
- **Increase graduation rate**

## 2019-2020 School Academic Goals

### Goals of DeKalb Alternative School

DeKalb Alternative School will increase the percentage by 2% in the number of students scoring at the Developing Learner Level or higher on The Georgia Milestone ELA End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment and the ELA End-of-Grade (EOG) Assessment for the 2019-2020 School Year.

DeKalb Alternative School will increase the percentage by 2% in the number of students scoring at the Developing Learner Level or higher on The Georgia Milestone Math End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment and the Math End-of-Grade (EOG) Assessment for the 2019-2020 School Year.

## Committed to Student Success Through Parent and Family Engagement

### School-Family Compacts

Our school will collaborate with parents to jointly develop a school-family compact that outlines how families, students, and the entire school staff will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact explains how the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the high academic standards of the district and state.

### Curriculum and Assessment Information

Our school will keep you informed throughout the year about what your child(ren) is learning during Curriculum nights, parent-teacher conferences, and on our school website. The school will also provide parents with individual results of academic assessments including MAP and Georgia Milestones Assessments.

### Training Staff on Parent and Family Engagement

Based on feedback from parents provided on surveys, feedback forms, and comments during our Stakeholder Input Meetings, we will train our staff to better communicate with, value utility and contributions of, and collaborate with parents as equal partners.

### Reservation of Funds

Parents will participate in the development of the 1% parent and family engagement set-aside during the Stakeholder Input Meetings. Parents are also encouraged to complete surveys and feedback forms regarding the parental set-aside. The information will be shared at the Annual Title I Meeting.

### Annual Title I Meeting

We will hold the Annual Title I Meeting on 9/16/2019. The meeting will be held at a convenient time to accommodate all stakeholders. Invitations will be sent to all parents via: calling posts, text messages, parent portal, and flyers.

### Coordination of Services and Transition Support

Our school will designate School Counselors: **Mr. Preston Jones and Dr. Laretta Lyle** to collaborate with feeder schools, DJJ, DFACs, and other designated agencies to support students and families. Additionally, we will provide families and students support in transitioning to (middle or high school) with High School Orientations, College and Career Fairs.

### Parent Resources and Trainings

We are committed to building our parents' capacity to improve student academic achievement! We will host several parent workshops to empower you when working with your child(ren) at home. Please review the attached Calendar of Events for parent meetings and family events held at various times of the day.

### Support for Parents of English Language Learners (ELL)

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 language, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practical, in a language the parents can understand.

### Other Reasonable Support

The school will support parents by providing these parent and family engagement activities:

Title I Stakeholder's Input Meeting 5/16/2019; Entry Conferences & Orientation each Tuesday & Thursday (Twice-a-week); Open House Aug. 1, 2019; Curriculum Night Sept. 16, 2019; The Annual Title I Meeting Sept. 16, 2019; Parent Conferences throughout SY; A & B Honors Program at End of each semester; Title I Parent Engagement Forums: Math- Nov. 21, 2019; Social Studies- Jan. 23, 2020; ELA- Feb. 20, 2020; and Science-Mar. 19, 2020. "A Better Me" or "Men of Distinction" Mentoring Groups.