

Sarasota County School District Parent & Family Engagement Plan Summary

2017-2018

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school district that receives federal Title I, Part A funds must work with parents to create a district Parent & Family Engagement Plan. The plan establishes the District's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the District will implement ways for parents to be involved.

The Sarasota School District's Parent & Family Engagement Mission is to:

- Help parents understand that they can play a major role in the academic achievement of their children,
- Build positive relationships with parents by increasing communication between school and parents,
- Empower parents to assist their children at home,
- Increase parental awareness of resources and services available to assist in their children's academic achievement.

The following information is a summary of the District Parent & Family Engagement Plan:

1. Each Title I school must have a Parent & Family Engagement Plan which is reviewed at the district level.
2. The District and schools will provide opportunities for parents to be involved in the planning, development and approval of the Parent & Family Engagement Plan and School Improvement Plan through parent meetings and the School Advisory Committee.
3. The District and schools will work with parents to identify barriers, which hinder participation in parent involvement activities and will provide a support mechanism to overcome those barriers.
4. The District will provide district-wide activities, technical assistance and support for Parent & Family Engagement at Title I schools to build strong parental involvement and will support a partnership among schools, parents and the community.
5. The District will integrate Title I Parent & Family Engagement strategies with other federally funded programs such as: 21st Century Community Learning Center, ESOL (English Spoken as an Other Language) and the Early Learning Coalition.
6. The District and schools will evaluate the effectiveness of the Parent & Family Engagement Plan with an annual parent survey and will amend the Parent & Family Engagement Plan to overcome barriers to parent participation as a result of survey responses.
7. Title I Part A federal funds will be used to support parent involvement activities in the schools. Parent input will be used to determine the use of these funds.
8. The District and schools will provide activities for all parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children.
9. The District will distribute a Title I Brochure to assist the parents in understanding Title I resources.
10. The District and schools will provide Parent & Family Engagement training for school staff including the four elements of Parent & Family Engagement.
11. The District will partner with three community agencies to provide opportunities for parent training sessions on a range of topics at five community-organized events.

The Parent & Family Engagement Plan may be used as a reference for questions you have about the Title I program at the district and schools. A complete copy of the District Parental & Family Engagement Plan is in your school's Parent Engagement Center, the Public Libraries, and some local churches. The District plan is posted on the District's website, <http://www.sarasotacountychools.net/departments/instructionalservices/default.aspx?id=45173> , and the school's Parent & Family Engagement Plan is posted on the school's website.

You may request a copy of the complete Plan from the Office of State & Federal Programs located at 1960 Landings, Sarasota, FL 34231, by calling 927-9000 ext. 34061. A copy will be mailed to you.