In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Cherokee County School District (CCSD), which receives Title I, Part A funds, agrees to develop jointly with, agree with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written districtwide parental involvement plan that contains information required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015. This plan establishes CCSD's expectations for parental involvement in Title I schools and describes specific parental involvement activities and how required actions will be met.

PART I
GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Cherokee County School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with ESSA. These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
  - The District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with requirements of ESSA.
- The District will incorporate its districtwide parental involvement policy into the Local Educational Agency (LEA) plan.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/guardians of students with Limited English proficiency, students with disabilities, homeless, migratory children and students in residential facilities in the county including providing information and school reports required by ESSA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the District will submit any parent comments with the plan when the District submits the plan to the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE).
- The District will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions regarding how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
• The District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I schools 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, ensuring that:

  ▪ Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
  ▪ Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
  ▪ 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, and
  ▪ The implementation of other activities, such as those described in ESSA.

PART II.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. Cherokee County School District (CCSD) will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its districtwide parental involvement plan required by ESSA:
   • Conduct District Parent Involvement Meeting annually to review and revise the District Parent Involvement Plan;
   • Notify all stakeholders of the District Parent Involvement Meeting through multiple means of communication (letter, email, District website and media notification);
   • Garner input from school council meetings which are advertised and open to the public; and
   • Garner input from Title I schools during their annual Parent Involvement Revision Meetings.

2. Cherokee County School District (CCSD) will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement required by ESSA:
   • Invite and encourage parents and stakeholders to attend school level and district annual parent involvement meeting in the spring;
   • Provide and distribute Annual Report of District and School Progress;
   • Notify parents that a school has been identified as Title I, Reward, Priority or Focus School status, and the implications of this status;
   • Survey parents annually at the Title I schools to determine strengths and areas for improvement;
   • Administer district surveys, as needed, SACS/CASI accreditation, CCSD Academies, Health survey and School Improvement;
   • Meet regularly with the Cherokee County Council of PTA for input;
   • Select parent representative for Superintendent Ad Hoc Committees as appropriate;
   • Share each school’s School Improvement Plan with parents and at Board of Education meeting which are open to the public;
• Establish and build relationships with businesses in the community by fostering partnership agreements and securing additional resources to support teaching and learning, including alternative sources of funding such as the Cherokee County Educational Foundation;

• Work with School and County Council Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA), as well as community-based organizations, to cultivate and establish relationships that support district initiative; and

• Increase awareness of CCSD as the education option of choice in Cherokee County through focused communication on CCSD achievements, through publications such as “Accolades”, “Choices”, web content and enhanced Speakers Bureau.

3. Cherokee County School District (CCSD) will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
   • District Supervisor of Federal Programs will utilize the GaDOE Parent Engagement Program website to develop training materials, resources and workshops for staff of Title I schools by:
     ▪ Participating in Parent Engagement Webinar series;
     ▪ Sharing of GaDOE Parent Engagement publication;
     ▪ Encouraging the use of the Engaging Parents Calendar; and
     ▪ Demonstrating the resources available through the GaDOE website;
   • District Supervisor of Federal Programs will meet at least quarterly with Parent Involvement Facilitators, Academic Facilitators, teachers and principals to provide assistance in improving services to parent;
   • District Supervisor of Federal Programs will provide ongoing technical assistance through emails and phone calls regarding implementation of effective parental involvement activities; and
   • District Supervisor of Federal Programs, staff representatives of Title I schools and parent representatives from Title I schools will attend the Parent Engagement Conference and/or Regional meetings.

4. Cherokee County School District (CCSD) will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I Part A with other programs and agencies by collaborating with the Early Invention Program, local school councils and feeder day care and private preschools to assist with meaningful parental opportunities.
   • Provide school tours at local schools;
   • Provide transition meetings and parent workshop at local schools; and
   • Offer parent resources and educational opportunities postings via the District and school websites.

5. Cherokee County School District (CCSD), with the involvement of parents, will take the following actions to conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this Parental Involvement Policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled or of any racial or ethnic minority background and parents who have Limited English proficiency or limited literacy). The District will
use the findings of the evaluation of the parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its parental involvement policies.

- All Title I schools will conduct an annual parent survey to determine the effectiveness of the Title I program. The survey will be sent to all parents, in a language they can understand, to the extent practicable;
- The Parent Involvement Facilitator at each Title I school will be responsible for analyzing the survey results;
- The Parent Involvement Facilitator will be responsible for working with the Administrator to revise the parent involvement plan based on survey results if needed; and
- Parents will be given the opportunity to provide feedback at various Title I parent meetings/workshops.

6. Cherokee County School District will build the schools' and parents’ capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the State's academic content standards, the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, the requirements of Title I Part A, how to monitor their child's progress and how to work with educators:

- Academic Facilitators will participate in training at North Georgia Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) related to academic standards and student assessment;
- Curriculum Night will be held in the fall at all schools to provide information to parents regarding content standards, assessment and how to monitor their child’s progress;
- Canton ES STEM Academy and Oak Grove ES Fine Arts Academy will participate in Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT);
- Title I Schools will provide ongoing parent workshops throughout the year (STEM Expo, Math/Science Night and Help with Homework);
- Parents will be notified of parent involvement events in multiple ways (newsletter, flyers, website, marquee, email and text-Remind 101) in a language the parents can understand (to the extent practicable);
- The Cherokee County School District website will provide resources for parents regarding standards and assessments and
- Parents will be provided access to Annual Report of District and School Progress. The annual report comes out once a year

B. The District will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement as follows:
• Curriculum Night will be held in the fall at all schools to provide information to parents regarding using technology to improve academic achievement;
• Canton ES STEM Academy and Oak Grove ES Fine Arts Academy will participate in Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT);
• Title I Schools will provide ongoing parent workshops throughout the year (STEM Expo, Technology Resources and Using the Parent Portal);
• Title III funds will be utilized to teach English class to parents in the District;
• Parents will be notified of parent involvement events in multiple ways (newsletter, flyers, website, marquee, email, text-Remind 101) in a language the parents can understand (to the extent practicable); and
• The Cherokee County School District website will provide technology resources for parents.

C. The School District will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, on 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 schools as follows:
• Academic Facilitators will participate in training at North Georgia RESA for training related to academic standards and student assessment and provide training to Title I staff as needed;
• Parent Involvement Facilitators and/or Supervisor of Federal Programs will provide ongoing staff training at the Title I schools on communicating and working with parents;
• Canton ES STEM Academy and Oak Grove ES Fine Arts Academy will participate in APTT, and the APTT Champion at both schools and district staff will conduct staff training;
• Director of School Operations and Administrator on Special Assignment of Educational Programs will provide training for School Counselors and School Social Worker for student support; and
• CCSD’s Office of Accountability, Technology and Assessment will provide instructional and technical support to all schools to help classroom teachers utilize and integrate technology successfully.

D. The School District 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, 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:
• School tours will be offered to all new families;
• Schools will work with private daycare and Pre-K programs to schedule school tours;
• Transition meetings for parents of Kindergarten, sixth grade, and ninth grade students will be conducted at the local schools;
• Parent workshops will be offered to assist with transition to elementary, middle and high school; and
The Cherokee County School District website will offer parent resources and educational opportunities postings.

E. The School District 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 via:

- Newsletters
- Flyers
- District Letters
- Student Handbook
- Enrollment Forms
- Remind 101 (texting service)
- School Website
- District Website
- District Facebook Page
- District Twitter Page

Translators will be available at Open House, Curriculum Night, Title I meetings/workshops (to the extent possible). Additionally, annual training sessions will be offered to all interested District staff on increasing media coverage of educational initiatives, programs and events in their individual schools.

F. Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

- Provide parent resources for parent/teacher conferences on the district website
- Provide translation of other languages for district website, to the extent practical

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