



2020 – 2021

LEA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Birmingham City Schools' mission is to guide all students to achieve excellence in a safe, secure and nurturing environment. In order to heighten student academic achievement, this plan explains how the core values of Birmingham City Schools (BCS) reinforces the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family and community engagement. It describes BCS commitment to build capacity and engage families in the education and well-being of their children and equip Title I schools to succeed in reaching the district and student academic achievement goals.

Build Capacity of Family and Staff-Through increased communication efforts and channels, BCS will continue to build school and parent capacity for various levels of family engagement by using all available methods for communication between the school, families and community partners. BCS will also build capacity for strong family engagement to ensure effective involvement of family members and the community as equal partners, and to improve student achievement through district wide and school activities and programs.

Supporting Student Success-The district will support student success in its Title I Schools by providing assistance to parents and family members that will aid them in better understanding state and district academic information connected to their children's learning, progress and information regarding the Title I Program. The district has two departments *Student Success and Social Emotional Learning*.

Communicating Effectively-Each Title I School hosts monthly workshops and has a parent page on its website that contains grade level resources. In addition to in person conferences, each school provides an opportunity to attend meetings via' Zoom in a remote setting. The district's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Coordinator will also host monthly trainings for the parent leadership council. The district family engagement coordinator and technology directors will support Title I schools in assisting parents with how to monitor their child's progress using Parent Portal and use of the BCS portal. Each Title I School will provide professional development for parents on the use of BCS Platforms for monitoring their child's progress.

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Advocate for Every Child-To empower parents and community leaders to become advocates for their own children and other children, the FACE Coordinator will maintain a parental leadership council and BCS will launch a superintendent parent advisory council. Parents, community leaders and business partners are invited to serve on all councils.

The Local Education Agency (LEA) will implement parental engagement programs, activities, and procedures that do not discriminate against parents based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age, consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA); and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; nor against parents of migratory children; nor against parents or children with limited English proficiency. The LEA and local schools will include provisions providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA.

Sharing Power-Birmingham City Schools is committed to recruiting advocates for students, providing opportunities for organizing events, volunteering, participating in PTA/PTO, networking, and engaging families and community partners.

Collaborating with the Community- BCS has monthly partners meetings. Community partner's work in the district is aligned and focused; their work is based on set priorities that build system wide capacity. During these meetings partners are given system updates and provided opportunities to share how their organization influences students. BCS monitors student impact by using an asset map where partners are mandated to document their activities with students

Welcoming All Families- BCS will work to have a welcoming environment for all families. Families will be encouraged to have a voice and be in partnership in strengthening the mission of parents and families engagement for higher academic achievement concerning all children.

Staff- BCS will conduct monthly trainings for principals to learn and discuss strategies to strengthen family engagement and build ties with families and the community. BCS staff will be trained on how to properly notify parents and on sending parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable. Interpreters will be available for parent events and meetings. In addition, the district and schools will distribute information about the school policies, programs and activities on the district/school websites, through the district's app, social media, flyers, newsletters, emails and the district's automated calling system.

Collaboration Supports

- LEA Parent Leadership Council – will provide monthly trainings to any parent who attends
- School-based Volunteer trainings
- School-based Parent Leadership Teams
- School PTA, PTO and PTSA Organizations
- Booster & Student Support Groups
- District level and school-based focus groups
- District level open discussion forums
- BCS Community Partners
- Parent Surveys
- District will conduct monthly professional learning opportunities for school site FACE Designees

Distribution of the Plan-Under Title I, Part A, Section 1116 of Every Child Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each school served under Title I, Part A, distribute to parents and family members of participating children, a written, district and school-level parent and family engagement plan and school-parent compact. All documents are required to be distributed to parents in a timely manner. Schools use a checklist for documentation on distribution.

Forums for Parent Participation-Each school will implement least two forums per year where parents express their concerns. Alternative communication methods will be provided for those parents who are unable to attend these forums. Upon implementation parents are encouraged to participate in the superintendent's parent advisory council and attend the monthly family engagement sessions.

Adoption-This LEA Family and Community Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with and agreed on by parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the collaboration of parents, school, and district personnel at Title I Parent meetings and district personnel at committee meetings.

This plan has been adopted by the Title I Parent Advisory Council and will be in effect for the 2020-2021 academic year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before **October 30, 2020**.



Superintendent

June 30, 2020

Date