



2022-2023

LEA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Birmingham City Schools' mission is to guide all scholars to achieve excellence in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment. In order to heighten student academic achievement and the whole child, including social and emotional well-being, this plan explains how the core values of Birmingham City Schools (BCS) reinforce the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family and community engagement. Birmingham City Schools is committed to having a welcoming environment for all families. Families are encouraged to visit your scholar's school(s) and partner with us to strengthen the mission of parent and family engagement for higher academic achievement and the social and emotional well-being of all children.

Birmingham City Schools Builds Capacity of Parents, Families, and Staff by:

- **Providing Program Information to Parents and Families** – Birmingham City Schools provides Title I program information, including the State's academic content and achievement standards to parents. Schools conduct a flexible number of meetings to accommodate all parents. BCS provides parents with information to help better understand standardized assessments, state academic content and achievement standards, to parents.
- **Providing Materials and Training** – Birmingham City Schools will continue to build school and parent capacity for various levels of family engagement by providing monthly workshops, seminars, and/or parent trainings to parents and families to help support student learning. Materials and supplies for parent workshops and trainings will be used to assist in parent learning. BCS has included Parent Texting Software to allow parents to stay abreast of district information and events as well as Parent Technology Training.
- **Educate Educators** – Birmingham City Schools will conduct training for principals and staff to learn and discuss strategies to strengthen family engagement and build capacity with families and the community. BCS staff will be trained on how to effectively and efficiently communicate with parents, families, and the community.
- **Headstart/Pre-school Coordination** – Birmingham City Schools supports early learning by providing parent training and resources to help parents and families of pre-school students with academic and behavioral skills and techniques to promote student growth.
- **Providing Understandable Communication**- Birmingham City Schools will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. The district also provides monthly Parent Power Sessions that inform and promote parent knowledge of student academic achievement as well as building parent and family skills. Each school also has a website that displays information about the local school. The local school Parent Engagement Policy/Plan is accessible to families on the school website and in schools.

Advocate for Every Child- Parents and families are encouraged to be advocates for all scholars and actively engage in monthly parent meetings at the local school and district level. Local schools operate Parent Leadership Councils/ Parent Focus Forums where parents can express their suggestions and concerns. Alternative communication methods will be provided for those parents who are unable to attend these forums. Parents are encouraged to participate in focus groups, Parent Leadership Council meetings and attend district monthly meetings.

Sharing Power- BCS is committed to providing platforms for all stakeholders to participate, engage, and partner with schools through organizing events, volunteering, membership in PTA/PTSA, and networking.

Collaborating with the Community- Birmingham City Schools have monthly partner meetings. The committed work of each partnership in the district is aligned, focused, and based on set priorities that build system-wide capacity. During these meetings, partners are given system updates and opportunities to share how their organization influences students.

Collaboration Supports:

- LEA Parent Leadership Council
- School-based Volunteer trainings
- School-based Parent Leadership Representatives
- School PTA,PTSA, PTO Organizations
- Booster & Student Support Groups
- District level and school-based Focus Groups
- District level open discussion forums
- BCS Community Partners
- Parent Surveys
- School-site Family and Community Engagement Teams

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 the School-Parent Compact. The Birmingham City Schools Parent Plan will be made available to parents and families on the district website as well as shared during parent meetings.

This plan has been adopted by the Title I Parent Advisory Council and will be in effect for the 2022-2023 academic year. The school district will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 31, 2022.



Superintendent

September 27, 2022

Date