**Parent and Family Engagement Written Policy (Sec. 1116 (2))**

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(A))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d).**

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| The Fort Payne City School District Federal Program Coordinators facilitates the Consolidated Federal Programs Stakeholder Meeting in the Spring and Fall of each school year. During these meetings, faculty, parents, students, community members contribute to the development of District-wide Consolidated Parent and Family Engagement Plan. In addition, this year there was virtual collaboration through June with relevant stakeholders in the development of the plan. Sources used in the development of these policies and plans include department level meetings, individual school level meetings, ACIP reviews, staff surveys, annual parent survey results, and parent-teacher conferences. This policy and all school policies will be posted on our system and school websites making them available for parent comments and suggestions. This policy is a working document subject to review and revision. The survey of parents at the beginning and end of each year helped identify barriers to parental involvement as well as strengths and challenges to the district plan. Furthermore, parent representatives from each school will serve as a point-of-contact for other parents and will work with the local school Parental Engagement Specialist to ensure that parents receive information in a timely manner. |

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(B))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the local educational agency in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The Federal Programs Director will provide the following:  District oversight and leadership;  Guidance and support on the appropriate use of parent involvement funds and review school level Parental Involvement Policies, School CIP plans, and School-Parent Compacts to ensure compliance;  Maintain and support with appropriate information and training for parental volunteer opportunities;  Facilitate district level stakeholder meetings;  Assist in the development of parental leadership through PTOs and other recognized groups;  Identify and publicize promising programs and practices related to parental involvement. |

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(C))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies under this part with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs.**

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| The positive role that families play in student achievement has been well documented. Fort Payne City Schools know that students perform better when their parents are actively involved in their education; thus, we must ensure that each school creates a climate that makes parents comfortable and gives them meaningful opportunities to participate and support their children. We must also recognize the unique needs of students and families and explore a parental involvement events and activities that will provide parents with multiple opportunities throughout the year to be an active participant in their child’s academic achievement and development. Each school begins the year by participating in an Open House with flexible hours to accommodate families. Parents are encouraged to come and meet their child’s teacher and the school staff. Parents are also encouraged to sign up for volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled during the year as needed on an individual basis and, Parent /Teacher Involvement days are scheduled in the fall and spring at each school. Parents are given a monthly calendar of all parental activities (science fairs, art fair, PTO Programs, Parental Involvement Night, etc.,). In addition, parents are encouraged to participate in parent surveys that are conducted yearly. Furthermore, each school utilizes a Learning Management System to provide information throughout the school week for parents to have access to latest data/ information regarding their child. |

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(D))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—**

**(i) barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background)**

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| The input and suggestions from parents are an essential component of the district-consolidated plan and school level ACIP plans. The Fort Payne City School District will conduct annual surveys of parents to identify barriers to parental involvement as well as strengths and challenges to the district and school level plans. The Parental Engagement Specialist will conduct the surveys at each individual school and the survey results will be utilized to help develop and revise this plan. The parent survey results will be disseminated at the district level Consolidated Federal Programs meetings and members of the District Consolidated Federal Programs Committee will include parent representatives from each school who will provide input into the development of this plan. These parents will serve as a point-of-contact for other parents and will work with the local school and Parental Engagement Specialist to ensure that parents receive information in a timely manner. To ensure that all information related to the district, school, parent programs, meetings and activities are available to all parents in an understandable uniform format, each school will send home calendar of monthly events to parents, and staff will utilize calling system to remind parents of upcoming events in their native language. Parent notifications and resources will be provided to parents in the parents’ native language, when applicable, and interpreters are employed at each school and will be available at parent events and meetings. Information placed on our school website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also utilize the Mass Notifications system, school websites, local news media, social media site and other school message systems to post information for parents. |

**(ii) the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers**

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| Throughout the school year, parents are provided materials and training on such topics as literacy/mathematics and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve their child’s academic achievement. Parent support is given in the state academic standards, state and local assessments including alternate assessments, the requirements of Title I Part A, how to monitor their child’s progress and how to work with educators. Grade level meetings are held at the beginning of the school year to help parents become familiar with curriculum classroom standards, homework policy, assessment, proficiency levels that students are expected to achieve, and directions to access their child’s grades, discipline, and attendance. Additional activities to support parental engagement are scheduled throughout the year. |

**(iii) strategies to support successful school and family interactions**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will implement the following strategies to support successful school and family interactions: promote advertising and encouraging parents to participate in school activities,  providing a translator as needed for parental engagement, asking parents to serve on the Consolidated Federal Programs Committee, encouraging parents of pre- school age children to utilize the OSR Preschool program, Head Start and HIPPY program, providing assistance on registration day in the spring for incoming students and parents to visit and tour the elementary school, as well as register for the upcoming school year.  Additionally, the system employs a system-wide Parent/Family Engagement Specialist that provides support to assist in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement and serves as a school liaison in order to nurture a supportive spirit among the school, parent and community. The System also employs a Title I Director that provides guidance and support to administrators and the Parental Engagement Specialist through emails, telephone calls, meetings, etc. and reviews school level parent and family engagement policy/plan to ensure compliance, including documentation from parent meetings showing it was developed jointly with parent input. |

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(E))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency will use the findings of such evaluation described in the section above (Sec. 1116(2)(D)) to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary the parent and family engagement policies described in this section.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will provide, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include measures to identify barriers that limits participation by parents in activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The evaluation will also address identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel, teachers, and strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent and family engagement policy to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parent and family engagement policies. The FPCSD will annually implement the following strategies: Annual Parent Meeting, Parental Involvement days (Fall and Spring), evaluate feedback from parent representatives at each school, conduct surveys (take-home, mailed, electronic), offer a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in their child’s education, publicize (website, school messenger (Blackboard), flyers, social media etc.) all activities in multiple ways and in native languages to ensure families are informed. Also, assistance will be provided to schools throughout year as needed. |

**Sec. 1116(a)(2)(F))**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency will involve parents in the activities of the schools served under this part, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the local educational agency to adequately represent the needs of the population served by such agency for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will involve parents in the joint development of its LEA parental involvement plan and activities at each school. Parents and families will be invited to serve on the Consolidated District Planning Committee and provide suggestions for annual development or revisions of the LEA Parental Involvement Plan. The committee is comprised of parent representatives from each school, community members, faculty and other stakeholders to provide leadership and advisement on matters related to parental engagement, in title I, Part A programs as well as other issues related to district wide federal programs plans.  Parents and families will be invited to serve on each school’s improvement planning committee in the development of the Continuous Improvement Plan (ACIP) for that school. Each Title I school will notify families of the date of its Annual Title I Meeting and invite them to participate. Schools will conduct annual meetings that provide information concerning the school’s participation in the Title I program and the rights of parents and families under Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. Each Title I school will conduct meetings at flexible times to accommodate the schedules of parents and families. |

**In order to build capacity for Parent and Family Engagement, the Local Education Agency will ensure effective involvement of parents and will support a partnership among the schools involved, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, the LEA shall:**

1. **Describe how it will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or school district, as appropriate, in understanding the following topics:  The challenging state academic standards; State and Local Academic Assessments including Alternate Assessments; Requirements of Title I, Part A; How to monitor their child’s progress; How to work with educators; FPCSD will provide parental engagement opportunities throughout the school year for parents to gain knowledge in these areas. Parents will be provided a monthly calendar of dates and locations for parental engagement activities. This information will be shared via newsletter, school website, and blackboard messenger. |

1. **Describe how it will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children’s achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will, with the assistance of the individual schools, provide materials and training to help parents and families to work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement, such as literacy training, and use of technology, (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement.  FPCSD will provide parental engagement opportunities throughout the school year for parents to gain knowledge in these areas. The Technology Coaches will provide parent forums on using technology, monitoring their child’s progress, and training regarding education about the harms of copyright piracy. Parents will be provided a monthly calendar of dates and locations for parental engagement activities. This information will be shared via newsletter, school website, and blackboard messenger. |

1. **Describe how it will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will provide opportunities for professional development to address these topics and the Parental Involvement Specialist will facilitate parent engagement opportunities and activities at each school to build and strengthen ties between parents and the school. |

1. **Describe how it will to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool 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.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), OSR Pre-K programs and other state funded pre-K programs in the district and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Additionally, faculty and staff from those programs shall be invited to attend parental engagement activities that focus on Kindergarten transition initiatives. Also, parents may tour the schools and receive information to help prepare them and their children for kindergarten. FPCSD will coordinate with these programs to ensure that parents are informed about available resources. |

1. **Describe how it 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.**

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| To ensure that information related to district, school, and parent programs, meetings and activities are available to all parents in an understandable and uniform format, each school will ensure that to the extent feasible and appropriate parent notifications and resources will be sent home in parents’ native language. The district will utilize TRANSACT and local translators to accomplish this. Furthermore, when applicable, interpreters will be available at parent events and meetings. Information posted on the district website will be translated to the extent practicable. The district will also use Blackboard Mass Notification, school websites, local news media, district social media site, and other school messenger systems to post information for parents. |

1. **Describe how it will ensure provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request**.

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| The Fort Payne City School District shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will, with the assistance of its schools, parents, and families, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, in methods 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. The Parent Engagement Committee at each school will meet regularly to ensure school success by informing and empowering parents to support their children’s learning at home. In addition, parents will be given the tools necessary to support student achievement while participating in the making of informed decisions about their child’s learning, thus participating in the improvement process at school. Furthermore, each Title I school will, with the input of parents, and families, develop a home-school compact outlining the responsibilities of the school, students, and parents in the education of each child. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such activities. Additionally, throughout the school year parents are provided materials and training on such topics as literacy/mathematics and using technology to help the parents work with their children to improve their child’s academic achievement. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and childcare cost, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions as parents may request. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District has established parent representatives at each school. The FPCSD may train parent representatives at each school to enhance the involvement of other parents in parental engagement activities**.** |

1. **Describe how the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.**

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| Meetings may be arranged at a variety of times or may be conducted in home for with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, to maximize parental involvement and participation. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.**

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| The ACIP plans contains a parental involvement section that is continually visited and updated as needed. Also, the Parental Involvement Specialist analyses and ensures that the district and schools are implementing model approaches to improve parental involvement. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section.**

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| Parent advisory councils are established through each school in the FPCSD. Also, these parents serve as representatives on the District level parent advisory council. |

1. **Describe how the LEA may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.**

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| The Fort Payne City School District will communicate with organizations and businesses in order to encourage building community partnerships with our schools as well as the district in order to foster parental involvement in such areas as:  \*Allow time off from work to attend school related meetings  \*Provide tutors  \*Have community and business leaders as speakers at parent meetings and workshops  \*Donate to schools on behalf of parents who are employees or members  \*Sponsor School wide events promoting student achievement |

**Sec. 1116(f)**

1. **Describe how the Local Education Agency, to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children, parent and family members of homeless children, and parents and family members of immigrant children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.**

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| The ESL teachers and support staff are available to translate information for parents during parent meeting meetings and with written documents sent to parents. Also, all compacts, parental surveys, and information related to parental and family engagement opportunities are provided to the parent in their native language. |

**This LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by :**

**Federal Programs Collaboration meeting May 2022 and September 2022 annual meeting for parents to discuss and review the Consolidated Plan for FY 2023. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 1, 2022.**

**PLAN APPROVED BY *(Person or Entity*) Brian Jett DATE OF APPROVAL 6/09/2022**