

Millington Municipal Schools

2023-24

Family Engagement Plan

5020 Second Ave. Millington, TN 38053 <https://www.millingtonschools.org/>



What is Family Engagement?

Family Engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) That 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.
- (D) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

About the Family Engagement Plan

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Millington Municipal School District (MMSD) has developed a family engagement plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. This plan will describe MMSD's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals.

When schools and families work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and enjoy school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the district and school plans and in carrying out the district and school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. Consistent with Section 1116, MMSD will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each includes a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

Jointly Developed

In order to actively and consistently involve all planning team members and stakeholders in the development, implementation, and revision of the district family engagement plan and the district improvement plan, meetings are scheduled with the various stakeholder groups representing each of our schools. These groups include parents, teachers, facilitators, and school administrators. During these meetings, each stakeholder group reviews district data, identifies strengths and areas of need, and then determines goals and actions that can be taken by the district. Each stakeholder group provides feedback prior to and during the development of our district plan. Throughout the year, data is reviewed and evaluated by stakeholder groups to gauge the effectiveness of the action steps implemented. If revisions are needed, such changes are made using the feedback from the stakeholder groups.

Technical Assistance

The district employs a technical support specialist for each school. Additionally, an instructional technology and communication specialist is employed in the district and available for support as needed.

Designated school personnel assists families with the registration process and other forms of online enrollments such as the FAFSA.

There are multiple bi-lingual employees throughout the district to provide translation services as needed.

Professional development days are scheduled throughout the year to keep all staff trained in best practices, including effective family engagement, to improve academic achievement.

Reservation of Funds

MMSD will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives each year to carry out the family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, MMSD will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication to assist each Title I school in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

Each Title I school will host an annual Parent Advisory Meeting for families to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used in the upcoming year at the school-level. Minutes from these meetings will be reviewed to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and to consider changes to the family engagement budget.

Annual Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, MMSD will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the family engagement plan and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the Title I schools through an annual parent survey.

In the spring, each Title I school will publish a survey on the school website and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the family engagement activities and programs. In addition to the annual survey, each Title I school will also use the Parent Advisory Committee to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs of families and to design strategies for more effective family engagement. MMSD will use the findings to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its family engagement plans.





Opportunities for Meaningful Parent and Family Consultation



Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the district and school improvement plans that are developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the district, schools, and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

Annual Title I Survey Family input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may be provided through the annual district Title I survey. The survey will contain questions related to Title I information, opportunities for students through Title I funding, family engagement activities, and a section for families to provide their comments.

School Parent Advisory Meeting Each Title I school will host meetings for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's family engagement plan, and the home/school compact as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and programs. Each Title I school will send invitations home and/or email, text, or call parents notifying them about the date and time of the meeting. Information regarding the School Improvement Plan, Family Engagement Plan, and Home/School Compact will also be made available on the school websites.

District Parent Advisory Meeting MMSD will host a parent advisory meeting where parents invited to hear the latest updates, review, and provide input into the District Improvement Plan and Family Engagement Plan for the upcoming school year. The Title I Programs Director will send out invitations and/or email, text, or call parents notifying them about the date, time, and location of the meeting. Information regarding the District Improvement Plan and Family Engagement Plan will also be made available on the district website.

Visit https://www.millingtonschools.org/departments/federal_programs to access family engagement information from the MMSD website.



Building Capacity

MMSD will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the Title I schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

Of Parents:

MMSD, with the assistance of its Title I schools, will build families' capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and activities on topics such as literacy training and using technology to help families work with their children to improve their academic achievement. Information will be provided to families in understanding state and district academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, as well as information regarding the Title I program. MMSD will also provide assistance for parents in understanding the following topics: challenging state academic standards; state and local academic assessments including alternative forms of assessment; requirements of Title I, Part A; how to monitor their student's progress; and how to work with educators.

Activity and engagement opportunities to support families in helping their students' academic success shall include, but not be limited to: Open House, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Curriculum Nights, Grade Level Transition meetings/Tours, Data Nights, College and Career Fairs, ACT Info Night, Spanish Parent Night, Financial Aid Night, TCAP/EOC Informational meetings, Family Resource Center, and ongoing technology-based communications.

Of School Staff:

MMSD, with the assistance of its schools and families, will educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders and staff in the value of contributions of families and in how to communicate and work with families as equal partners. MMSD will implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between families and schools by:

- Providing necessary literacy training for families from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Training families to enhance the involvement of other families.
- Maximize family engagement and participation in their student's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting phone/video call conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children, with families who are unable to attend those conferences at school.
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving family engagement.
- Establishing a districtwide parent advisory committee to provide advice on all matters related to family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in family engagement activities.



Accessibility

In carrying out the family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with each school to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.



Adoption

This district family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed upon with 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 the annual Parent Advisory Committee planning meeting.

This plan was adopted by Millington Municipal Schools on March 1, 2023 and will be in effect for the 2023-24 academic school year. The school district will distribute this plan in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 7, 2023.

Mark Your Calendars

First day for students: August 7, 2023

Parent Teacher Conferences: September 21, 2023

Parent Teacher Conferences: February 15, 2024



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