



Picayune School District Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2025-2026

Picayune School District receives Title I, Part A funds to support strengthening student academic achievement. It therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the LEA will implement several specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the Mississippi Department of Education.

The Picayune School District agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1116, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) of the ESSA, and each include as a component a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school

district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the state Department of Education.

- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

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

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) 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) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

The Picayune School District will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

EXAMPLES:

- Parent surveys are conducted each spring.
- Through the District Leadership Committee Meeting, parents and community members will review and have input on the district parent and family engagement policy.
- Parents will be invited to review the district policy, along with the school policy, annually during the Annual Title I Meeting.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Picayune School District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools 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:

EXAMPLES:

- *Annual Open House and Annual Title I Meeting*

- *District Leadership Committee*
- *Professional development opportunities*
- *PTO meetings*
- *Federal Programs assistance in developing and monitoring school plans*

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The Picayune School District will take the following actions to conduct, 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 identifying barriers to greater 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 include identifying the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and 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, its parent and family engagement policies.

EXAMPLES:

- *The federal programs director will release parent, family and community surveys each spring. Parents, family, and community will have the opportunity to provide input on school functions and evaluate the implementation of programs.*
- *The superintendent, federal programs director, Title I school contacts, administrators and teachers, along with parents, family members and community members will be responsible for conducting the evaluation of policy and programs on an annual basis as part of the Title I planning process.*
- *Parents, family members, and community members will provide feedback on the content and effectiveness of the parental and family engagement policy and school plans through participation in surveys, Open House, Annual Title I Meeting, PTO, District Leadership Committee Meetings, and website suggestion box. The school administration and federal programs director will be responsible for these activities.*

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

The Picayune School District will involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent

and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

The school district will provide parents and family members opportunity for input on how to spend the 1% parent involvement funds through the annual spring survey and during the annual Title I parent meeting, as well as meetings throughout the school year.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

The Picayune School District will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant Federal, State, and local laws and programs: such as Head Start that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

EXAMPLES:

- *The Parenting Center provides input and gives support and referrals for resources to the district and families.*
- *The district will work with Head Start and daycares to provide support and resources to parents in aiding them in participating more fully in the education of their children.*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

The Picayune School District will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents in understanding the following topics:

- The challenging State academic standards
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators

EXAMPLES:

1. *Provide resource materials at the Parenting Center*
2. *Provide training opportunities during PTO, Parents' Night Out, Breakfast with the Principal, etc.*
3. *Provide monthly newsletters with academic/behavioral suggestions.*
4. *Provide resource information on the school website.*

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

The Picayune School District will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff 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 schools by:

EXAMPLES:

- *Professional development opportunities at the beginning of the school and assigned throughout the year;*
- *Share relevant resource information faculty and staff as collected;*
- *Weekly focused faculty meetings;*
- *District Leadership Committee; and*
- *Information to parents from district and school will be provided in a format, to the extent practicable, and in a language that parents can understand.*

ADOPTION

This LEA parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by planning agenda, meeting minutes, and sign-in sheets.

This policy was adopted by the Picayune School District on 7/10/25 and will be in effect for the period of the 2025-2026 school year. The school district will make this policy available to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 30, 2025.


(Signature of Authorized Official)

7/11/2025
(Date)