

Parent Notifications

As required by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the following information is annually shared with parents. The distribution of this document shall serve as a formal notification to parents regarding the following issues:

Right to Request Information

Each parent of a student in a Title I school has the right to request information about the professional qualifications of the student's teacher(s) and any teacher assistants who serve the student. Parents also have the right to request information on policies regarding student's participation in assessments and procedures for opting out. This information will be provided by the administrative office at the child's school upon request. This notice will also be provided by the school to all parents.

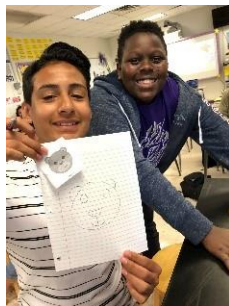
Parent Notification Regarding Teachers without State Qualifications and Certification Requirements

The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires schools that receive Title I, Part A funds to notify parents or legal guardians when their child has been taught for four (4) consecutive weeks by a teacher who has not met "applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned." If this occurs, your child's school will send home a letter giving you information regarding your child's teacher.

Florida Department of Education Family & Community Outreach

The mission of the Bureau of Family and Community Outreach is to empower families and communities with resources and information needed to promote a high quality education for their children. The Bureau reaches out to serve Florida's diverse families and communities in a number of ways, including the Just for Parents online community. We encourage you to participate in our online community and hope you will share this resource with your family and friends.

<http://www.fldoe.org/family/>



Okeechobee County Schools



2018-2019

Okeechobee County Schools Parent & Family Engagement Plan Summary

Family Engagement Mission Statement

"The mission of the Okeechobee County School District is to build and sustain relationships with parents to encourage and empower them to become informed, active partners in the education of their children."

For your convenience, the Parent & Family Engagement Plan is available in its entirety at the reception desk and on our website at:

<http://www.okee.k12.fl.us>

Okeechobee County Schools Parent & Family Engagement Plan Summary

In an effort to increase the academic achievement of students, all schools in the District that receive Title I, Part A funding must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement plan that contains information required by Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan outlines the various components of Family Engagement, including: (1) how the school will coordinate with other federal programs, (2) the various family engagement meetings it will hold, (3) how it will build the capacity for strong family engagement, and (4) how it will communicate with parents.



Family Engagement

Okeechobee County Schools will provide parents information regarding the district Parent & Family Engagement Plan (PFEP), including instructions on how they can access the PFEP in its entirety. Parents will also have access to this information through hard copy dissemination of a brochure summary of the District PFEP, through the district website, and through communications during parent meetings, such as SAC, PTO, District Family Engagement Sub-Committee, and District Advisory Council (DAC).

The District will involve parents in the District Plan by requesting their input during district and school trainings, meetings, and activities. This input will be documented through surveys, evaluations, and meeting minutes. Information about accessing the district plan will also be provided through the brochure summary of the District Title I Parent & Family Engagement Plan.

The District will involve parents in school review and improvement through gathering their input and feedback of School Improvement Plans (SIP). Special emphasis will be placed on each school's SIP goals and activities for family engagement. Since schools will utilize their School Title I PIP as part of their SIPs, parents will have access to the district plan, the District Title I PFEP, their School Title I PFEP, and their SIP - all with the goal of articulation and scaffolding of family engagement strategies to increase student academic achievement.

Supporting Partnerships

Okeechobee County School District will build the capacity for strong family engagement by providing opportunities for the following activities: Battle of the Books, Math Bowl, Family Engagement Literacy Nights, APTT, Footsteps2Brilliance and various Florida Standards nights that will concentrate on strategies to help facilitate learning at home.

Other Activities

The District will continue to convene a District Family Engagement Sub-committee to discuss District-wide Family Engagement Initiatives, areas of need, and areas of success throughout the District, and school budgets.

Professional Development for School Staff

The district will provide the following training in the area of Family Engagement to its staff:

- **Footsteps2Brilliance:** The program is designed to teach educators how to incorporate literacy in into daily activities and tasks. Participants receive specific training for communicating with parents about literacy strategies throughout the school year.
- **APTT:** Elementary School Teams attend training to help them better implement successful Academic Parent Teams at participating schools.

Communication

Okeechobee County provides District-wide activities with translators and bilingual material ensuring that all parents of students enrolled in our Title I schools have the opportunity to participate in family engagement activities. These activities include Family Engagement Literacy Nights, "Battle of the Books", "Math Bowl", Footsteps2Brilliance, and APTT among others. Flyers and announcements regarding family engagement activities are translated and distributed to all parents at Title I schools. Event flyers include this information so that parents are aware of the availability of this service. The District will monitor schools to ensure all parent information is provided in a language that parents can understand. The District also encourages parents with disabilities to notify the school and/or the District of any accommodations that may be needed in order to address barriers to participation. Specific contact information will be listed on activity and meeting announcements and notifications.

The District will also enlist the assistance of community groups and faith-based organizations in promoting activities to parents that may not be reached through school distribution and dissemination methods. The District will collaborate with Part C and Title III to provide information in appropriate manners to migrant and non-English speaking families. Furthermore, this collaboration will assist the District in finding alternative sites to host meetings and activities, such as churches and community centers.

Full Participation in all Activities

The District, in partnership with the parents of students enrolled in Title I schools, will be responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of the District Title I Parent & Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) and the District plan. The school Family Engagement Teams will consist of teachers and parents. Teachers will be selected based on their administrator's recommendation. The District will involve parents (public and private) in the District Title I PFEP by asking administrators and teachers from across District Title I schools to invite parents to attend the meeting. To involve hard-to-reach parents, the District will provide translation services and all other reasonable accommodations in order to encourage their participation. Parent and family input for the PFEP will be solicited through surveys, focus groups, and PFEP development meetings. Other meetings, such as school PTO/SAC meetings, will also be utilized to gain input for the PFEP and will be documented through meeting minutes.