



School Parent and Family Engagement Policy
North Tattnell Middle School
2023-2024
10/02/2023

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, **North Tattnell Middle School** receives Title I, Part A funds and 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(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The **North Tattnell Middle School** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, 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 schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement 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 ESSA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

North Tattnall Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

Parents are jointly involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Schoolwide Plan annually. North Tattnall Middle School conducts an annual parent survey each year in the spring to gain input from parents on all parts of the parent and family engagement programming, including the parent and family engagement policy. In the spring, an annual stakeholder feedback meeting is held to get input from parents on the revision of this policy and the Schoolwide Plan for the upcoming year. The meeting provides parents the opportunity to provide suggestions and to participate in discussions relating to the education of their child. The results from the survey and suggestions and ideas from the meeting are reviewed with the School Council and School Improvement Team to revise the policy annually. Parents and stakeholders are able to provide verbal or submit written comments at any time to the school administration on the Title I Schoolwide Plan. If the Schoolwide Plan is not satisfactory based on the comments, the school submits the parent comments to the district Title I Director. The District Parent and Family Engagement Policy is provided to the parents/students in the student handbook and posted on the district and school websites. North Tattnall Middle School provides parents the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, School-Parent Compact, Schoolwide Plan and the Title I Survey and Results in a meeting with request for input in the spring. The school distributes them prior to November 1 and they are available online on the school website, <https://ntms.tattnallschools.org/>, as well as copies being available upon request.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

North Tattnall Middle School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

An annual review of the Annual Title I program will be held in a meeting in the fall of the year at a convenient time prior to November 1 (August 14, 2023). All parents and families are invited to attend the meeting. This meeting will provide parents and families with information about the guidelines, purpose, goals, and expectations of Title I, school programs, and the parents' rights under Title I. North Tattnall Middle School will utilize the school's website, written notification on flyers, social media, and school marquee to advertise the meeting date and time. A sign in sheet with roles, agenda, presentation and minutes will be kept by the Academic Coach as evidence of the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

North Tattnall Middle School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- NTMS will send home English and Spanish copies of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in August 2023.
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

North Tattnall Middle School believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of families in regular two-way and meaningful communication. Parent and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning and are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school. The school will communicate with parents in multiple ways during the year through three PTO meetings, parent data meetings, quarterly school council meetings, orientation/Open House event, Annual Title I meeting, monthly newsletters, school emails, automated attendance notification system, personal telephone calls, written notes/letters/notices, flyers/brochures/invitations, student agendas, parent-teacher conferences, parent portal, school messenger, school's website, school's marquee, school's social media (Facebook), Remind 101, 504/IEP/TPC/ESOL/PAC meetings, and academic events. Parents may request a meeting at any time to discuss their child's progress. Parent conferences are encouraged to foster parent engagement in the education of their child. Communications will be translated into an understandable language that the parents can understand, to the extent practicable through Google Translate, Microsoft Translate, and/or translator as needed.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

North Tattnall Middle School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

An annual parent survey and input meeting is conducted each year in order to gain input from parents on the school-parent compact. The survey results, input from the spring meeting, and any additional feedback is considered when revising the compact for the following school year. The school-parent compact is given to parents and families annually during August and sent home with the students during the beginning of the school year. A copy of the school-parent compact is maintained on the school website and new students and families are given one at the time of enrollment. The compact will be explained to the parents and they will be asked to sign the compact signifying their commitment to working in partnership with the school and their child in achieving the challenging State academic standards.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

If applicable, **North Tattnall Middle School** will take the following actions to involve the parents 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 by:

An annual parent survey is conducted each year in order to gain input from parents on the use of the school's portion of the district's 1% Parent Engagement funds. The survey results, input from the spring meeting, and any additional feedback is considered when revising the school parent and family engagement policy and school-parent compact in the spring. During the Annual Title I Parent Meeting, the school shares ways that the funds have been spent including Parent Institute newsletters, student handbooks, Remind 101, agendas, materials for the parent resource center, and supplies for parent and family engagement meetings.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

North Tattnall Middle School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement 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 by:

The school counselor serves as a resource for parents to obtain literature on hygiene, bullying nutrition, and other pertinent topics. The school nurse provides resources to families on medical, dental, and vision needs. North Tattnall Middle School coordinates and provides an orientation and experience at the school for rising sixth graders in the spring from the elementary school. A sixth grade orientation for parents and students is held in July before school begins. North Tattnall Middle School offers support for rising ninth graders and parents as they begin registering for classes and transitioning to the high school in the spring of their eighth grade year.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

North Tattnall Middle School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's 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 to improve the achievement of their child

North Tattnall Middle School provides parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum and assessments in use at the school as well as individual student academic assessment results and interpretation of the results, Title I, Part A requirements, and parent materials and training to support their child's academic progress through multiple participation opportunities. These opportunities include parent and teacher conferences, RtI/504/IEP parent meetings, Open House in July 2023, Annual Title I Parent Meeting in August 2023, Night of Thanks and Giving in November 2023, Batting for Books in March 2024, parent resource center, and transition (Elementary/Middle and Middle/High) meetings. North Tattnall Middle School also provides opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency. ESOL teachers is available to assist students and parents with limited English proficiency. Individual academic assessments and the interpretation of the results will be interpreted for parents in a language they can understand through the assistance of the ESOL teacher and translator/translation device-services as needed. The school also has a Migrant Student Service Provider (SSP).

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

North Tattnall Middle School will provide training to 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 by:

Building capacity of school 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 home and school will be provided by the academic coach through professional development, professional learning communities, and/or monthly data meetings. The school responds to parent requests for parent and family engagement activities from the spring survey. District Level Family Engagement Coordinator provides technical assistance to the school. The school ensures that that school information and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent to parents in a format and language that parents can understand to the extent practicable.

North Tattnall Middle School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

North Tattnall Middle School is committed to working with parents as equal partners in their child's education. Parents will be kept informed of school activities by using multiple means of communication. Parent meetings are offered at different times of the day to increase parent and family engagement as well as being offered more than once if possible. Parents will be asked to volunteer at flexible times in a variety of ways when needed. Parents will be provided education tips and modeling to help their child at home with academics such as literacy, math, science, social studies, technology, GMAS assessment, and others. Additional educational resources are located in the school's parent resource center.

DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

POLICY COMPONENTS

- ☐ Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- ☐ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- ☐ Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- ☐ Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- ☐ To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- ☐ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parent and family engagement
- ☐ Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- ☐ Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.

