

# Fair Street International Academy Parent Family Engagement Plan 2021-2022 695 Fair Street Gainesville, Ga 30501 770-536-5295 www.gcssk12.net Jointly Revised August 3, 2021 \*INSPIRE \*NURTURE \*CHALLENGE \*PREPARE PRINCIPAL- GWENELL BROWN

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Fair Street Academy 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 activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Fair Street Academy 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 school wide 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 and including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the school-wide 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

#### JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Fair Street Academy 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:

- Conduct an annual parent meeting in the Spring of each year with the School Governance Council, the School Leadership Team, and others interested to discuss ways to plan, review, and improve programs as well as solicit input from parents on the programs they would like to see and how the funds should be spent
- Share the plan with the community via school website and social media
- Forward comments of any parents who do not find this plan satisfactory to the district office.

## ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Fair Street Academy 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 school wide plan, and the school-parent compact:

- An Open House is conducted at the beginning of each school year where teachers provide a copy of this plan and the Parent Compact.
- During the Fall, an annual meeting will be held in the morning and evening to accommodate parents, students, and community stakeholders' schedules.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Fair Street Academy will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:
Timely information about the Title I programs

- Meetings will be held in the morning and evening to increase parent participation
- Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, will be home in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Childcare will be provided at all evening meetings if deemed safe.
- At times, transportation will be provided. Contact the school for more information.

## SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Fair Street Academy 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.

• Parent and Community Stakeholder meetings will be held each spring with a group of teachers, the parent liaison, counselor, students, members of our School Governance Council, and administrators to jointly develop the parent compact to determine how they will all work together to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

#### **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

Fair Street Academy 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:

- Meet with the School Governance Council, parents, and other community stakeholders to review the budget and to determine areas of need regarding Parent Resource Room purchases and the purchase of materials to aid parents when working with students at home.
- PFE funds for fiscal year 2022 have been consolidated. This allows the school to have more flexibility with how funds are prioritized and expended.

#### **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

The Gainesville City School System will integrate Parent and Family Engagement programs in Part A with parent and family engagement strategies under the following programs: Pre-K, Homeless, Neglected and Delinquent, Special Education, Migrant, and other district programs by:

- Providing resources needed for school to host Parent and Family Engagement sessions so parents learn ways to support their child at home.
- Provide materials to parents and families for at-home use through our Parent Resource center.

• GCSS Migrant staff members provide tutorial services in the home, as well as, provide materials to help parents prepare children for school. We will use digital media platforms such as live Zoom meetings and take home supplemental packets during temporary school closures.

# **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Fair Street Academy 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
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's 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 to improve the achievement of their child
- Send home quarterly progress reports and report cards
- Provide parent information and resources on the school's website
- Utilize automated calls and text messages to inform families of school information
- Provide a student handbook and agenda to each student
- Utilize translator/interpreter for school events

# **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

Fair Street Academy 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:

- Meet monthly with our School Governance Council to garner feedback for topics of improvement
- Conduct weekly Professional Learning Community meetings with teachers
- Monitoring and effectively notifying parents of student attendance
- Conducting curriculum nights to build ties between home and school
- Send information home in the child's home language

## **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT**

Fair Street Academy will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

- Provide parents with access to our Parent Center, Parent Coordinator, and resources.
- Provide parents with a survey asking for suggestions on necessary subjects to discuss for the upcoming school year
- Elicit School Governance Council for feedback concerning needs for further parental involvement

# DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Fair Street Academy will:

- Provide 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.
- Provide flexible hours for our parent meetings to maximize parents' ability to attend meetings.

To ensure we protect our school community from COVID19, most of our meetings during the 2021-2022 will be held virtually using Zoom. (Our district will decide if we can meet in person).