



## Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2020-2021

In collaboration with families, Lexington County School District One has created a Parent and Family Engagement Policy as outlined by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). In accordance with this policy, we agree to the following:

- Lexington County School District One will ask families to serve on the team that develops the Title I plan under section 1112, and the process of school review and improvement under section 1116. Families will be informed of any schools that are identified as a focus, priority or support school and will serve on teams to develop school improvement plans. Also, any school receiving the status of “reward” school will be shared with families. Meetings, conferences, surveys, suggestion boxes and electronic communication will be used as methods to generate parent feedback in the development of the plan. Procedures will be in place to respond to parent suggestions within two days of receiving the suggestion. These procedures will be followed by all staff members.
- Lexington County School District One assures that its Title I schools will have an annual meeting at the beginning of each year to inform families of the school’s participation in the program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. Families will receive regular communication consisting of email, phone calls, text messages, and flyers regarding upcoming Title I events.
- Lexington County School District One will engage families in the planning and review of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Family-School Compact. The Compact will outline how families, the entire school staff and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement. Both the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Family-School Compact will be made available to families for their feedback at the beginning of the school year. Opportunities will be made available for additional parent comments. Parent feedback will be used to review and update the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Family-School Compact. Principals will remind families of the importance of their feedback in the school newsletter and other forms of communication.
- Lexington County School District One is committed to providing the most qualified individuals to teach and support each student in the classroom. Families may request and have the right to know information regarding the professional qualifications of their student’s teacher(s), as outlined in the *Parents’ Right to Know* requirement. Families will be notified in writing if their children are taught for four or more weeks by a teacher who does not meet the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject area for which they are teaching.
- Lexington County School District One will work with schools to provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement. Assistance will be coordinated with other resources, such as the Lexington County Public Library, and business and community organizations. Families of children attending Pre-K

programs at Title I schools will be invited to participate in parent and family engagement activities at the school.

- Lexington County School District One will conduct an annual evaluation of the Title I Program Plan, including the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Family-School Compact. Based on the results of the parent survey in the spring of each year, Title I committee members will work with parent groups at the school level to identify barriers to greater participation by families in activities authorized by this section (with particular attention to families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, are English learners, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). Any strategies developed will be used as part of the revision of the policy and communicated to families in an understandable format.
- Lexington County School District One believes that student success is a shared interest of both school and family. Incorporating parent and family engagement into the learning process, providing regular communication (not limited to, but including parent/teacher conferences), and building meaningful relationships with families, create the framework for each Title I school's approach to partnering with families. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities.
- Lexington County School District One will engage the families of children in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- Lexington County School District One's Title I schools will continuously update families regarding curriculum, state and local assessments, and proficiency standards through family curriculum nights, conferences, newsletters and the district website. Families will be informed of student progress through progress reports, report cards and conferences. Families may schedule conferences with teachers during the school day and/or after school hours.
- Lexington County School District One will schedule Title I committee meetings, with parent representation, for the purpose of developing, planning, reviewing and improving the Schoolwide Title I Program. Families will be given the opportunity to provide comments on the Program Plan, if they feel it to be unsatisfactory, and these comments will be provided to the LEA (Local Educational Agencies) and SEA (State Educational Agencies).
- Families will receive online access to annual school and district report cards. Families may also request a paper copy. Priority and Focus Schools are required to notify families of their status upon identification and each year until they exit their status. This notification must invite families to participate in the school's turnaround or improvement activities and provide opportunities to engage in the process.
- English learners are tested and families are notified of the results within an established timeline, (10 days or 30 days), based upon the student's date of registration. A parent notification form is included with the assessment results, if their child is going to be placed in a language instruction program.

Lexington County School District One is committed to working together to provide the best education for your child. Having reviewed our current Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Family-School Compact, we now need your input in making our schools the best they can be. Thank you for staying involved in your child's education. We look forward to a successful year.

Please check the appropriate box and submit your feedback below.

I have read our Parent and Family Engagement Policy and our Family-School Compact. I agree that both documents assist me as a parent/guardian in becoming involved in my child's learning.

I have read our Parent and Family Engagement Policy and our Family-School Compact. I would like to offer the following suggestions to the Policy and/or Compact so they will better assist me as a parent/guardian in becoming involved in my child's learning.

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Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The committee will consider all comments in finalizing the policy. The policy will be discussed at our District Title I Planning Committee Meeting and a final copy will be given to you.

You may return your response in an envelope to Central Services or you may mail your response to the following address:

SAXE GOTHA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
100 Bill Williamson Court  
Lexington, SC 29073

Please write, "Elizabeth Houck", on both options.

Lexington County School District One is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all students, parents/legal guardians, staff, visitors, personnel and community members who participate or seek to participate in its programs or activities. Therefore, the district does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or any related medical conditions), color, disability, age, genetic information, national origin, or any other applicable status protected by local, state, or federal law. The district will use the grievance procedures set forth in policy to process complaints based on alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; and Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The district designates specific individuals to handle inquiries or complaints. To find out who to contact and how to contact them, please go to our website at <http://www.lexington1.net/contact-us> Revised 6-11-19

Due to the public health emergency brought by COVID-19 and the continuing uncertainty regarding the virus's impact upon district and school operations for the 2020-2021 school year, it may be necessary for the district to alter, amend or otherwise modify the information contained in this document.

The district reserves the right to make any necessary changes to the contents of this document, consistent with amendments or revisions to policy or administrative rules, which may be required or occur as a result of changes brought about because of COVID-19. The district will make reasonable efforts to inform you in a timely manner of any material changes made to any calendar, plan, policy or protocol listed in this document.