



## **District Parent and Family Engagement Plan Bristol City Schools 2023-24**

In support of strengthening student achievement, Bristol City Schools receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement plan that contains information required by Section 1116(a)(2) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the district will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities.

The Family Engagement Plan is considered a living document and is annually reviewed and updated as needed. Updated revisions of the plan will be presented to the District Parent and Family Engagement Advisory Board for input and will be posted on the system's website.

### **Purpose**

The Bristol City Schools Parent and Family Engagement Plan was developed to:

- Support Strategy 2 of the Board of Education's Five Year Strategic Plan as well as the LEA's District Level Plan (InformTN/ePlan)
- Increase and improve the level of parent and family engagement in our students' education by conducting an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the plan for improving the academic quality of all schools
- Identify barriers to greater participation by parents/families in particular attention to families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- Support the initiatives found in the Consolidated Funding Application
- Create a common vision of parent and family engagement and resources needed to sustain that vision.

The **Bristol City Schools** agree 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 families 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 families understand.
- If the district plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the families 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 family engagement 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:

Family engagement means the participation of families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

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

## **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

The **Bristol City Schools** 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:

During parent meetings, all parents are invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the district parent and family engagement plan for the next school year. Notes home, social media, and website postings will be used to inform parents and family members about these meetings. During these meetings, parents can also review the Schoolwide Program/School Improvement plans. Additionally, all four Title I schools invite stakeholders to review the plans and compacts and provide meaningful input. The district also created a Family Engagement Advisory Board to gather feedback on current family engagement practices at the school and district levels.

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The **Bristol City Schools** 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 engagement 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:

The Federal Programs office will provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The Title I central office staff and administrators will coordinate parental and family engagement strategies, programs, and activities, to the extent feasible and appropriate. The principal of each school will ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand and shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

## **ANNUAL EVALUATION**

The **Bristol City Schools** 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 plan in improving the academic quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by families in activities (with particular attention to families 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 plan to design evidence-based strategies for more effective family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, its parent and family engagement policies.

The school district will use its findings about parental and family engagement plans and activities to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement, and to revise its parental and family engagement plans based on:

1. Annual evaluation meeting with the District Parent and Family Engagement Advisory Board
2. Feedback on plans from stakeholders and focus groups

## **RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

The **Bristol City Schools** 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.

BTCS will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY24 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this plan and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, BTCS will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. Funds reserved by the district will be used to:

1. Disseminate information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement (especially best practices for increasing the engagement of economically disadvantaged parents and family members).
2. Support programs that reach parents and family members at home, in the community, and at schools.

## **COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

The **Bristol City Schools** will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs. These may include the 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant, preschool, Family Resource Center, and ESL programs that encourage and support family participation in the education of their children.

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS**

The **Bristol City Schools** will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, build capacity for strong family engagement by providing materials and training on such topics as literacy and technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy) in an effort to promote student academic achievement. Assistance will also be provided to parents and families 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; and
  - How to work with educators.
1. Parent meetings/workshops/classes hosted by all Title I schools
  2. Hosting parent meetings to gather input from parents on best practices for communication
  3. Maximize the use of school-parent compacts in fostering a commitment to improve student performance and reach academic goals

## **BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

The **Bristol City Schools** will, with the assistance of its schools and families, educate its teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders and staff in the value and utility of contributions of families and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and schools by:

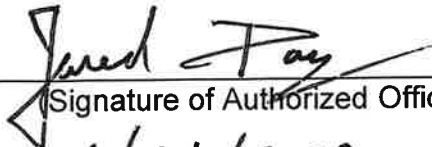
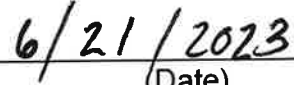
- Establishing a District Parent and Family Engagement Advisory Board to provide feedback on current engagement practices at the district and school levels.
- Adopting and implementing model practices to improve family engagement.
- Training families to enhance the involvement of other families.
- Maximize family engagement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times.

## **ADOPTION**

This district parent and family engagement plan has been developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as

evidenced by stakeholder participation documentation.

This plan was drafted by the Bristol City Schools on July 21, 2023 and will be in effect for the period of the 2023-2024 school year. The school district will make this plan available to families of participating Title I, Part A children at the beginning of the school year.

  
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(Signature of Authorized Official)  
  
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(Date)