



Dr. Tarcia Gilliam-Parrish, Principal

Family Engagement Plan

I. Purpose

To work jointly with parents to develop a written parent involvement plan. The School Level Family Engagement Plan **has established the expectations for parental involvement**. To provide parents information regarding opportunities for involvement in Title I projects as required by federal guidelines.

II. Scope

- Policy Statement
- This policy is applicable to all parents of participating children attending Ida B. Wells Academy.
- Ida B Wells Academy's staff continuously builds capacity for strong and active parent participation.

III. Procedures

Ida B Wells Academy's staff collaborates with Title I staff to ensure effective parental involvement via partnerships among the schools, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement. A variety of procedures are used including: jointly developing a school level family engagement plan and school/home compact, convening an annual Title I meeting and other parent meetings held at flexible times and locations, providing staff and parent training, communicating in a form and language that can be understood, providing opportunities for parent literacy; and scheduling workshops on parenting skills.



Family Engagement Plan (cont.)

IV. Responsibility

- Surveys are administered to parents as a means of obtaining input for school decision-making. Data from the surveys are analyzed and used to develop the Academy's plan that is shared with parents at meetings and through written communication. Parents provide feedback regarding the Academy's effectiveness through surveys and questionnaires.

- Ida B. Wells Academy convenes an **Annual Title I meeting and invites all parents to attend**. Parents are informed of **the Academy's participation in Title I**, explains the **requirements of a Title I school**, and the parents' **right to be involved**. Ida B. Wells Academy offers this and **all meetings at flexible times** in the morning and evening in order to accommodate all parents and provide opportunities for regular meeting attendance. Flexible meeting times will also allow our parents opportunities to **review various programs** offered at Ida B. Wells Academy.

- The Academy's staff collaborates with the Shelby County School District's Parent and Child Engagement Center (PACE) to provide services and **timely information about all programs available for parents** such as parenting and basic skills development.

- The Academy has involved parents in an **ongoing, organized, and timely** way in order to allow parents to make suggestions, participate in school based decision making. Ida B. Wells Academy has set up a Parent/Teacher/Community Resource Center for scheduled workshops and meetings. The Resource Center also houses materials for home use that will help parents to improve their child's achievement. Parents are provided these materials during workshops and monthly parent meetings. They may also access these materials at reasonable requested times.

- Parents are **provided a description and explanation** of the **school's curriculum** and forms of **academic assessments** used to measure student progress, and the **proficiency levels** students are expected to meet.



Family Engagement Plan (cont.)

- The Academy will provide parents with updated information that allows parents to stay involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way. Parent Power Meetings are scheduled **regularly** to address curriculum, **academic assessment**, and instructional issues. At the meetings, parents are offered additional opportunities to share experiences, **offer suggestions, and participate in decisions** related to the education of their children.
- Ida B. Wells Academy has **provided a description** and an explanation to parents regarding the Shelby County School District's Parental Involvement Policy.
- Ida B. Wells Academy has **jointly developed, with parents, a school-parent compact**. The Academy will share the responsibility for improving student academic achievement and how the school and parents will develop a partnership to help children achieve the high standards. The compact was developed with parent input, reviewed periodically and revised as needed. The compact delineates parent, school staff, and student shared responsibilities for improved student achievement.
- The school-parent compact addresses the importance of two-way communication between the teachers and parents on an ongoing basis. At least two conferences are offered to parents during the school year. Student progress is communicated to parents via notes from teachers, telephone calls, progress reports, report cards, emails, flyers, or school linked messages at least twice each nine-week period.
- Parents have reasonable access to staff and are encouraged to assist with educational activities as school volunteers, chaperones, tutors, etc. Parents are invited to attend workshops, open house, and school/class programs. Additionally, parents are encouraged to volunteer and participate in regular parent/teacher conferences and special school projects throughout the school year.
- Training opportunities are available for Ida B. Wells Academy's staff and parents to learn strategies for developing quality school/community partnerships.
- Ida B. Wells Academy ensures that information is disseminated to families of English Language Learners (ELL) in the language used in the home. Parents who are ELL or who have other disabilities are provided full opportunities for participation.

