

# Fulton Leadership Academy's Parent and Family Engagement Policy

2019–2020  
Revised August 20, 2019  
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## What is Family Engagement?

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

- (A) That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- (B) That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education.
- (C) That 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) The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA.

## About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Fulton Leadership Academy has developed this parent and family engagement policy that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools. As a Title I School, this plan will describe FLA's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity within FLA to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the school and student academic achievement goals.

When schools, families, and communities work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer and enjoy

## Jointly Developed

We strive every day to ensure that all FLA families have a voice in the way the academy engages with the parents and the community. The Director of Federal Programs is Jannard Rainey and the Parent Liaison is Helen Cummins. They are both available to assist families in every way.

Parents will have the opportunity review and discuss the Comprehensive LEA Improvement Plan (CLIP). Additionally, Fulton Leadership Academy will create a Principal's Parent Council to review the district parent and family engagement policy before the end of the school year.

Upon final revision, the parent and family engagement policy will be incorporated into the CLIP which will be submitted to the state Department of Education. Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the policy at any time on the school website or by submitting written comments to your Mr. Rainey or Mrs. Cummins.

Fulton Leadership Academy's parent and family engagement policy will be posted on the school's website, distributed during the annual Title I school meetings early this school year, and made available in the schools' parent resource centers.



## Strengthening Our School

This year, the Parent Liaison, Helen Cummins, will provide assistance and support to all families at Fulton Leadership Academy, a Title I school, to ensure family engagement requirements are being satisfied and that family engagement strategies and activities are being implemented. Fulton Leadership Academy, a Title I school, will receive notifications and resources from FLA and Mrs. Cummins to help us improve and strengthen our family engagement. Mrs. Cummins will hold monthly meetings and trainings with Fulton Leadership Academy staff to review family engagement plans and activities.

Additionally, FLA will host a meeting in March for stakeholders to review parent and family engagement requirements and plan opportunities for family engagement activities and meetings for the remainder of the school year.

## Reservation of Funds

FLA will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in FY19 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in Section 1116 of the ESSA. Furthermore, FLA will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support our local-level family engagement programs and activities. FLA, a Title I school, will develop an adequate family engagement budget that addresses our needs assessment and parent recommendations.

FLA hosts an annual School Improvement Forum for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds will be used within the school. Feedback from these meetings will assist in determining areas of need and improvement regarding family engagement.



## Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation

Input and suggestions from parents and family members are an essential component of the school improvement plan that is developed each year. All parents of students eligible to receive Title I services are invited to attend two meeting opportunities described in this section to share their ideas and suggestions to help the school and students to reach our student academic achievement goals.

### **State of the School Meeting ~ May 4, 2020**

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from Fulton Leadership Academy as well as review and provide input for parent and family engagement. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The school will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school's website.

### **School Improvement Forum ~ May 6, 2020**

FLA will host a forum for parents and family members to participate in roundtable discussions to review the schoolwide plan, the school's parent and family engagement policies as well as provide input on the family engagement budget and programs. Fulton Leadership Academy will send invitations home and email and text parents notifying them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Improvement Forum will also be made available on the school's website.

Parent input on the use of Title I funds to support family engagement programs may also be provided through the annual school survey. The survey will contain questions related to the family engagement budget as well as a section for parents to provide their comments.

**Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit [www.fultonleadershipacademy.net](http://www.fultonleadershipacademy.net) to review the meeting documents and minutes and leave your input.**



# **Building Capacity**

Fulton Leadership Academy will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership within the school, along with, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities and programs such as Parent Teacher Student Association, Parent Better Seeking Team and Academic Better Seeking Team.

## ***Of Parents***

Fulton Leadership Academy will work through its Title I program to provide assistance to parents in understanding state and school academic information connected to their student's learning and progress, as well as information regarding the Title I program and Fulton Leadership Academy. Fulton Leadership Academy will implement Parent University to provide classes for parents to gain knowledge about the challenging state academic standards, local academic assessments, as well as the required assessments for Georgia students including alternative forms of assessment. The dates and locations for these classes and meetings will be posted on the school website and shared through the Title I newsletter.

Fulton Leadership Academy will also coordinate pages on the school website that will contain resources and materials, including parent guides to help parents work with their children at home. Copies of these materials will be made available at the school for those families who may have limited internet access, including copies in Spanish. To assist parents with understanding the online student information system and other digital educational resources (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), the Fulton Leadership Academy technology specialist will host workshops for parents. Dates and times for these workshops will be determined and announced by the school through emails and newsletters.

## ***Of School Staff***

Fulton Leadership Academy will conduct three trainings during the school year for administrators and school staff to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. While the academy is implementing the Parent University program, Fulton Leadership Academy will also host a training for appropriate school staff and faculty that will focus on creating welcoming environments and improving two-way communication with families.

To ensure that information related to the academy, Parent University, PTSA and activities is available to all parents, the academy is required to send home and post online information for parents and family members in an understandable language and uniform format. At the beginning of the year, school staff will be trained on parent notifications and resources to be sent home in parents' native language, where applicable, and providing interpreters at parent events. Information posted on the school website will be translated to the extent practicable. The school will also utilize school phone call systems, school websites, local news media, and other school message systems to post information for parents.



# Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, Fulton Leadership Academy will conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy and the family engagement activities to improve the academic quality of the academy through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

Beginning in April, Fulton Leadership Academy will send home a survey and email a link to the survey for parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. These surveys will also be posted on the school's

## Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Student Support Specialist to ensure full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a language parents can understand.

## Mark Your Calendars

### *For Parents*

Annual Parent Survey  
April 13 - 17, 2020

School Improvement Forum  
May 2020

State of the District  
Spring 2020

PTSA Meetings  
Second Tuesday Each Month



## Adoption

This parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of scholars participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents and school, personnel at the annual State of the School meeting.

This policy was revised by Fulton Leadership Academy on August 20, 2019 and will be in effect for the 2019-2020 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before September 3, 2019