

Dalton High School
Parent Involvement Policy
2016 – 2017

Reviewed September 2, 2014

Adopted September 17, 2014

Revised August 16, 2016

The Dalton High School Parent Involvement Policy is available in a variety of ways: at the DHS parent resource center, in the school office, and online. All parents and stakeholders are welcome to provide any comments/suggestions/recommendations about this document. Please contact Stephanie Hungerpillar, DHS Assistant Principal, at (706) 876-4800, steph.hungerpillar@dalton.k12.ga.us or Kelly Spinetta, DHS Parent Involvement Coordinator, at (706) 876-4952, kelly.spinetta@dalton.k12.ga.us.

Dalton High School Parent Involvement Policy

Dalton Public Schools

2016-2017

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that received Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

Dalton High School will adhere to the following as required by law:

- 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 parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school wide program plan under Section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
- Update the school parent involvement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parental involvement 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, parents of migratory children, neglected and delinquent, McKinney Vento, homeless, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents and guardians of students associated with residential homes, specifically Oakhaven and the Girls' Home, along with any other residential facility
- If the school wide program plan under Section 1114 (b)(2) of the ESEA 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 parental involvement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

- Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:
 - That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
 - That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
 - 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.
 - The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESE.
 - All parents of Dalton High School are welcome in the decision about how the 1 percent of Title I part A funds are spent on parental involvement.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. At Dalton High School, we understand that parental involvement is a key factor in the success of a child in school. Student achievement and progress are greatly enhanced when the school and the parent work together to support each child. With that understanding, we have developed a policy that reflects that importance, that engages and welcomes parents into our school and the education process and that is made readily available to our parents. This policy has been jointly developed by the staff of Dalton High School and the families we serve.

Dalton High School 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 involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parent involvement will be used.

- Parents will be polled to ascertain their needs and concerns.
- Parents will be provided with a draft of the parent involvement policy for review and comment. This will be accomplished in person, through the business office and parent resource center, as well as online on the school's website. Parents are encouraged to forward suggestions regarding the utilization of Title I parent involvement funds to either the school's Title I coordinator or the parent involvement coordinator.
- The policy will be provided to parents in both English and Spanish.
- The plan will be made available to parents at the annual Title I meeting.

2. Dalton High School 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 parent's

requirements, the school parental involvement policy, the school wide plan, and the school-parent compact.

- The annual meeting within the first 45 days of the school year, and will be scheduled for early evening. A daytime follow up meeting will also be scheduled.
- The meeting will be advertised, in both in English and in Spanish, on the front doors of the school, on the sign outside the school and on the message section of Infinite Campus.
- Parents will be notified of the following:
 - Dalton High School participates in the federal Title I program.
 - The criteria for participation in the Title I program.
 - The rights of our students and parents.
- All policies, plans and compacts will be available for review in the front office.

3. Dalton High School will take the following actions to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, such as services relate to parental involvement.

- Offer daytime and evening meeting times as requested by parents.
- Offer childcare services as needed to facilitate meetings.
- Offer transportation, if requested.

4. Dalton High School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

Timely information about the Title I programs.

Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

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.

- Parents will be notified about the Title I programs through the annual meeting and at parent involvement meetings, thereafter.
- Parents will be made aware of the curriculum in use at the school through meetings with counselors, administrators and teachers. Parents will also receive this information via the PowerPoint used at the annual meeting as well as types of assessments and proficiency levels.
- Parents may meet with teachers, counselors, and administrators at any time to participate in decisions regarding their child's education.
- Information may be sent home through letters, flyers.

- Information may also be posted on the parent page on the Dalton High School website.

5. Dalton High School 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.

- Parents will review the school-parent compact throughout the summer both at Dalton High School and online and make any suggestions for amendment.
- Parents will have the opportunity to review, make suggestions and take home a copy of school-parent compact through the front office.

6. Dalton High School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership with the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below.

A. Dalton High School will provide assistance to parents to participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- The State's academic content standards
- The State's student academic achievement standards.
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments.
- The requirements of Part A.
- How to monitor their child's progress.
- How to work with educators

Dalton High School offers the following resources to parents:

- Meetings with administrators, teachers and counselors to discuss standards, achievement and testing.
- The state's academic standards (Georgia Performance Standards) will be available through a link on the school's website to the Georgia Department of Education.
- Students will be provided practice assessments, through USA test prep, for state assessments.
- Assessment and grading practices will be listed in the Student Handbook/Planner.
- Assessment and grading practices will also be communicated in each teacher's syllabus.
- All testing results (ACCESS, Georgia Milestones, PSAT, etc.) will be reported to parents.

- Dalton High School Literacy Night

B. Dalton High School will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate to foster parental involvement by:

- Hosting informative presentations
Examples of informative presentations that are jointly created and led by the DHS parent involvement coordinator and DHS guidance counselors:
 - All About High School: A Presentation for Parents of 9Th Graders and/or for Parents of Newcomers
 - Planning for College: Grades 9 thru 12
 - Financial Aid Night: A Presentation about Financial Aid for College
- Hosting a series of workshops based on Parent Handbooks from the Channing Bete Company, Inc. Examples of the topics that will be discussed:
 - Positive Discipline for Your Teen
 - 50 Models to be an Effective Parent
- Promoting Book Studies
 - *The Available Parent* by John Duffy
 - *How to Talk So Teens Will Listen and Listen So Teens Will Talk* by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish
- Promoting Parent Talks. Reading and discussing material related to parenting. Examples of materials to be discussed:
 - www.bestofparenting.com
 - www.positivediscipline.com
 - www.empoweringparents.com
- Helping parents open parent portal accounts on Infinite Campus and sign up as observers on Canvas so that parents can keep track of how their children are performing in school.

C. Dalton High School will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school by:

- Having the parent involvement coordinator work with teachers, administration and support staff regarding communication with parents.
- Provide a diversity workshop for teachers related to Latino culture.
- Have parent involvement coordinator model behavior during conferences.

D. Dalton High School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even, Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program,

and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Educating parents on the existence of the Dalton High School parent resource center.
- Offering workshops and classes to help parents understand and participate in the education of their children.

E. Dalton High School will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.:

- Post Title I meetings and activities to the Dalton Public Schools website.
- Post Title I meetings and activities to the Dalton High School website.
- Post Title I meetings and activities to the parent portal screen of Infinite Campus.
- Post notices of Title I meetings and activities to the front doors of the high school.
- Post Title I meetings and activities to the electronic sign on Waugh Street.
- Sending emails to staff.
- Utilize the telephone calling system to announce meetings.
- Host parent/student orientation at the beginning of the year (September).
- Provide parent volunteer opportunities (classrooms, Media Center, special events)
- Hold Parent/Administrator conferences as needed.
- Contact by Social worker/school counselor/school nurse/parent involvement coordinator with parents and families as needed.
- Post family night meetings, letters and flyers on social media and school website.

F. Dalton High School will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request by:

- Meeting with parents who make requests under Section 1118 to determine and meet their needs.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Dalton High School will implement the following discretionary school parent involvement policy components to improve parental involvement:

- Provide necessary 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 parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- To maximize parental involvement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.

Literacy Training

- Parents will be surveyed to determine their need for literacy training, both in English and in Spanish. The bilingual survey will be conducted by the parent involvement coordinator and will be given orally for parents who may have difficulty reading.
- Literacy classes will be offered, upon request and need, at a time convenient to parents.

Expenses

- Childcare, as well as age-appropriate activities, are offered as needed to enhance the involvement of parents in their child's education.
- Transportation is available upon request and would be requested through the parent involvement coordinator.

School Meetings

- School meetings are offered before school, after school and during the school day at Dalton High School.
- Parent conferences are also available via telephone and computer.
- In-home conferences will be arranged through the parent involvement coordinator and social worker upon parent request.