

DuBois Integrity Academy
2023-2024
Parent and Family
Engagement Policy

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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 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Revised September 19, 2023



About the Parent and Family Engagement Policy

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, DuBois Integrity Academy (DIA) 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 this District's Title I school. This plan describes DIA's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I school to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district 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 school more. Title I, Part A provides for substantive family engagement at every level of the program, such as in the development and implementation of the school improvement plan, and in carrying out the improvement provisions. Section 1116 of ESSA contains the primary Title I, Part A requirements for schools and school systems to involve parents and family members in their children's education. DIA will work with its Title I school to ensure that the required school level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of federal law and each include, as a component, a school parent compact.

How It Is Revised

DuBois Integrity Academy invite all parents to attend various input meetings to review and revise the parent and family engagement policy, the school wide plan and our school-parent compact form. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding these plans are welcome throughout the school year at Parents@diaK8.org email, which is monitored daily. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise these plans for the next school year.

We also distribute an annual survey online on our school website and parent email for suggestions on these plans and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also provide feedback during parent meetings, workshops and activities during the school year and individually with the school's Parent Liaison.



Who is it for?

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. DuBois Integrity Academy will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, and with disabilities.

Where is it available?

The Parent & Family Engagement Policy is posted on the school's website. Hard copies are available in the Parent Resource Center for parents to review and update throughout the year. Parents can call and request a copy of the parents & family engagement policy to be sent home by their scholar or mailed to them.

Reservation of Funds

DIA will reserve 1 percent from the total amount of Title I funds it receives in 2023-2024 to carry out the parent and family engagement requirements listed in this policy and as described in federal law. Furthermore, the ACSD will distribute 90 percent of the amount reserved to Title I schools to support their local-level family engagement programs and activities. The district will provide clear guidance and communication in developing an adequate family engagement budget that addresses their needs assessment and parent recommendations.

DIA hosted an annual School Improvement Forum in June for parents to provide suggestions on how these family engagement funds could be used in the upcoming year. Comment cards and minutes from the meeting were reviewed to determine areas of need for the upcoming school year and consider changes to the family engagement budget.

If you have any suggestions, please email pfe@duboisintegrityacademy.com

Opportunities for Meaningful Parent Consultation



Input and suggestions from parents, family members, and community partners are an essential component of the school improvement plan. 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 (Virtual) Meeting ~ October 18, 2023

All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from DuBois Integrity Academy as well as review and provide input into the district parent and family engagement policy and the Schoolwide Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Notices regarding this meeting will be emailed to all parents in advance of the meeting. The district will also communicate information regarding this meeting on the school's website and text reminder application.

School Improvement Forums ~ February 7, 2024

During this week, DuBois Integrity Academy 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 topics for school staff training. Invitations will be sent home as well as email and text parents to notify them about the date and time of the forum. Information regarding the School Improvement Forum will also be made available on the school websites.

Superintendent/Executive Director and

Deputy Superintendent/Academic Director

Parents have an opportunity to engage in meetings with the Superintendent/Executive Director, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer and Staff about academic goals and overall state of the school, etc.

Parent Teacher Conferences

DuBois Integrity Academy host regular scheduled parent conferences as needed to address the individual needs of each scholar.

Unable to attend these meetings? Please visit www.duboisintegrityacademy.org to review the meeting documents and minutes and leave your input.



Scan the code with your smartphone or tablet to access family engagement information from the DIA website.



Building Capacity

DuBois Integrity Academy will attend trainings during the school year for principals and leadership to learn and discuss strategies to increase family engagement, improve school-family communication, and build ties with parents and the community. These trainings will be redelivered to the faculty and staff and will include Professional Development offsite, onsite and book studies. Parent input and feedback will also be a part of the process.

Of Parents - DuBois Integrity Academy will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong family engagement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and family members and to support a partnership among the Title I school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following school activities and programs.

Through a partnership with Inspire EDU DuBois Integrity Academy provides parent workshops and trainings to empower parents to be able to effectively facilitate their scholars learning experience both at home and in school. Many scholars received laptops from Inspire EDU for permanent use in their homes.

Communication between families and school is very important. Some of the ways that families can stay in contact with faculty and administrators are: ClassDojo, Email Announcements, Text Messages, Student Planners, and Parent Communication Folders. Parents may send questions to info@duboisintegrityacademy.com.

To promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is published in both English and other languages upon request, posted on the school website.
- Partner with Pre-school programs, middle college and career ready resources, parent resource centers, and other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- Share information in English and other languages upon request of the parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- Provide trainings to parents on how the Georgia Standards of Excellence, the impact the pandemic had on our students learning, Georgia Milestone, how to monitor your child's progress, how to work with educators to improve student achievement and materials and training to help parents support their child's achievement, literacy training, technology, STEM training, and Title I Part A requirements to foster parental involvement.
- Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings and activities to help parents work with their child (children) for optimal achievement.
- Use our partners in education and school community teams to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- Collect feedback from parents and family members at all events, place input cards around the building and post a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

Of School Staff – DuBois Integrity Academy will provide monthly trainings for staff members during their planning periods on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff members will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.

Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) 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 Title I school through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

Beginning in April, DIA 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 district and school website

Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Director of Special Student Services 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.

In addition to the annual survey, DIA will also use the School Improvement Forum to facilitate group discussions to discuss the needs parents of children eligible to receive Title I services to design strategies for more effective family engagement.

The ACSD will use the findings from the school forums and the survey results to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, to remove possible barriers to parent participation, and to revise its parent and family engagement policies.

Mark Your Calendars

DuBois Integrity Academy
Open House
August 3 & 4th, 2023

Annual Title I Meetings
September 20, 2023 (Revised)
February 7, 2024

Virtual Parent Conference
every Monday & Friday
Schedule through
Microsoft Teams

Goodies with Grandparents
September 25, 2023

Curriculum Night (K-5)
September 27 & 28, 2023

Curriculum Night (6-8)
October 5, 2023

School Community Team

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team
- Please contact me so I can learn more in joining the School Community Team
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (Optional) _____

Telephone Number: (Optional) _____

Adoption

This Parent and Family Policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon as evidenced by the collected information from stakeholders. Upon approval of the CLIP and Parent and Family Engagement Policy by the State of Georgia, DIA will adopt this policy for the 2023-2024 school year. DIA will be distribute the policy in multiple ways to all stakeholders.

