

## Hancock County Parent Involvement Plan

The Hancock County School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parent involvement plan:

- Parent representatives from the elementary, middle and high schools, along with school administrators, school board members, and Central office personnel, will be appointed to serve on the District-Wide Parent Involvement Advisory Council.
  - Data from current family and community surveys will be analyzed and used to determine what actions or activities are necessary.
- a. The Hancock County School System will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
- Each school is required to include parents on the committees for SIP
  - Each school is required to include parents on the Parent Involvement Advisory Council.
  - Parents are encouraged to give suggestions for improvements.
- b. The Hancock County School System will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
- The system will provide technical assistance to help coordinate and train school administrators on ways to involve parents and communities.
  - Each school will be required to take part in the Parent Involvement Advisory Council to develop a Parent Involvement Plan and a Home and School Compact.
  - Support will be provided to help carry out the family and community activities at each school.
  - School data will be analyzed to help determine parental involvement activities that will contribute to student achievement.
- c. The Hancock County School System shall build the schools' and parent capacity for strong parent involvement by:
- Provide assistance to parents in understanding topics such as the State's academic content standards, State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, requirements of NCLB Section 1118 (parental involvement), how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve student achievement;
  - Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement, such as literacy training and using technology to foster parental involvement;
  - Educate staff with the assistance of parents in the value and contributions of parents, and in working with parents-how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, build ties between parents and the school;
  - Ensure school related information on programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a format and extent practicable, in a language the parents understand;
  - Provide other reasonable support for parent involvement activities per parent request;

- d. The Hancock County School System will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, State-run preschool programs, and Title III language instructional programs:
  - Presenting information on parenting issues to the parents of preschool children by Hancock County Family Resource Facilitator.
  - Preschool parents will receive a packet of materials pertaining to Title I and other school issues in the spring before time for Kindergarten registration.
  - Special education through IEP meetings.
- e. The Hancock County School System will annually evaluate the Parent Involvement Plan at its Parent Involvement Advisory Committee meeting. At that time, the district will conduct with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served by Title I-A:
  - Identifying barriers to greater parental participation in parent involvement activities, (especially for parents economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited English proficient, with limited literacy, or of racial or ethnic minority background);
  - Using the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement; and
  - Revising, if necessary, the LEA's parental involvement policies.
- f. Hancock County's Parent Involvement Advisory Council consisting of administrators, school representatives and parents will meet regularly to discuss district issues including programs, activities, procedures, and policies. They will also involve parents in the activities of schools served under Title I, Part A including but not limited to the design, implementation, and evaluation of the Title I Part A program.
- g. The Hancock County School System along with the Parent Involvement Advisory Council will ensure accessibility through the following means: to the extent practicable, provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand. The LEA's records and policies promote parental and community participation in programs for ELL students.

Hancock County School System has built into its calendar two half days for parent-teacher conferences for each school in which parents will be given access to all learning materials.

Hancock County School System implements effective outreach to parents to inform parents how they can be involved in the education of their children (handbooks, field trip info, online courses, extra-curricular activities, etc.) in a language parents can understand. Hancock County Schools also has a website ([www.hancockcountyschools.com](http://www.hancockcountyschools.com)) with information including the following:

- Parent Involvement Plan
- School Report Cards/Assessment Data

- Consolidated Plan
- District Calendar
- Meetings and Upcoming Activities
- Link to Individual School Webpages

Hancock County School System requires that all Title I schools have developed school level parent involvement plans. The Title I office provides assistance in the development of these plans.

Hancock County School System requires that the Title I budget reflect a minimum of 1% of the total budget on parental involvement activities. The Parent Involvement Engagement Advisory Committee will determine how the district funds are to be spent. The Hancock County School System requires not less than 95% of the 1% reserved goes directly to the schools.