

Nichols-Lawson Middle School

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Nurture **L**ead **M**otivate **S**ucceed

2020-2021

“Commitment to Excellence”

Nichols-Lawson Middle School Parent and Family Engagement Plan

PART I. General Expectations

The Nichols-Lawson Middle School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- ✓ The Nichols-Lawson Middle School will implement programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents in all schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultations with the parents of participating children.
- ✓ Consistent with Section 1118, the Sylacauga City School System shall work with the schools to ensure that the crucial school-level, parental engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- ✓ The Nichols-Lawson Middle School will incorporate this LEA parental engagement policy/plan into its LEA plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.
- ✓ In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental engagement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and schools will 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 required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand.
- ✓ If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- ✓ The Nichols-Lawson Middle School will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental engagement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- ✓ The Nichols-Lawson Middle School will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental engagement, and expects that as a Title I school, it will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental engagement means the participation of parents 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 at school;
- (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 1118 of the ESEA.

**Part II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED
LEA PARENT AND FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS**

1. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its Parental and Family Engagement Plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - A Parent and Family Engagement Team is called upon to develop/review the plan. The plan is reviewed each year. The Team is comprised of parents and school personnel.
 - The intention of this committee is to discuss all federal programs, proposals, funds available, and to provide the utmost benefits to all students. All group members are given the opportunity to offer ideas and opinions.
2. The Nichols-Lawson Middle School shall take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - The Parent and Family Engagement Policy/Plan is presented at each school's annual Title I meeting. The Parent's Right to Know Notice is also distributed at these meetings. Flyers, social media posts, and/or technological communication is sent to all parents inviting them to the meetings to explain the program and activities provided through Title I, federal guidelines, and the role of all parents in the education of their children.
 - The Federal Programs Coordinator and Technology Coordinator will participate in school-wide meetings to coordinate activities and provide guidance for allowable expenditures that may be needed to facilitate activities. The Title I teacher, administration, and/or counselor will coordinate parent meetings and workshops throughout the year, conveniently available during the day and afternoon. The sessions will cover numerous topics according to parent needs on survey results. These sessions are designed to help parents

become more involved in their child's education. Notifications of upcoming meetings and training sessions will be sent to ensure that all parents are offered opportunities to participate.

- Parents are encouraged to participate in the Statewide Parent Visitation Month, which is held in October of each year. Surveys are used as a tool to gain ideas to better meet the needs of both parents and students.
3. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will work in partnership with Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement through the BRIDGES program to help students with their academics.
 4. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will coordinate and integrate parental engagement strategies in Part A with parental strategies under the following other programs: Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Alta Pointe, and B.B. Comer Memorial Library.
 5. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will take the following actions to conduct, with the engagement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent engagement policy/plan in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools.
 6. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental engagement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental engagement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental engagement, and to revise its parental engagement policies.
 - Parents are given surveys once each school year seeking their input on the parent engagement program, activities, training, and materials that the school should offer to parents for the upcoming school year.
 - Results of parent surveys are reviewed by the Parental engagement Team.
 - The evaluation forms/survey will be written in an understandable format and, to the extent possible, in a language that parents can understand.
 - The data is analyzed to provide a foundation for implementing adaptive strategies to serve students and parents more suitably.
 7. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental engagement, in order to ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:

- Nichols-Lawson Middle School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school understanding topics such as the following:
 - College Career Readiness Standards (CCRS)
 - Guidelines for Success: Nurture, Lead, Motivate, Succeed
 - State’s student academic achievement standards
 - State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
 - Monitoring of student progress
 - Building parent/school partnership
 - Requirements of Part A

- Parents will be provided with timely information about school programs in several different ways to avoid any barriers that might hinder communication between school and home. The school shall provide program information to parents by way of:
 - Blackboard
 - Social Media
 - Letters/Flyers
 - School Website
 - Newspaper articles
 - Progress Reports (4 ½ weeks); Report Cards (9 weeks)

- Nichols-Lawson Middle School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement. The team will implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school. We will collaborate with various community agencies to encourage and support all parents in an understandable and uniform format.
 - i. Parent Workshops
 - ii. Parent Visitation Activities
 - iii. Title I Annual Meeting
 - iv. Community Partnerships
 1. Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement & BRIDGES
 2. AltaPointe Health Systems
 3. Leadership Sylacauga, etc.
 4. Alabama Childhood Food Solutions

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
PLAN COMPONENTS**

NOTE: The Parental and Family Engagement Plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ capacity for engagement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

Tentative Calendar of Events:

August	Schedule/Chromebook Pickup Virtual Orientation (with Title I Compact)
September	Title I Parent Survey (Student and Faculty: Completed in Spring 2020) Annual Title I Meeting (Virtual)
October	Parent engagement Day Family Book Club
November	Veterans' Day Recognition - Student Council / Fine Arts Family Book Club
December	Family Book Club Band/Choir Concerts with SHS
January	ACAP Testing Parent Workshop (Part I) Monthly Community Mentor visits during Advisory SHS Transition Meetings with 8th graders and parents Family Book Club
February	Transition Orientation - rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders Family Book Club Monthly Community Mentor visits during Advisory
March	ACAP Testing Parent Workshop (Part II) Family Book Club Monthly Community Mentor visits during Advisory
April	Monthly Community Mentor visits during Advisory Title I Stakeholder Surveys (Students, Faculty, and Parents)
May	Student Awards Ceremony Band/Choir Concerts with SHS Monthly Community Mentor visits during Advisory

***One curriculum showcase from each discipline**

***Any event may be conducted virtually due to precautions and procedures related to Covid-19.**

PART IV. APPROVAL

This Parent and Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. Nichols-Lawson Middle School will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before the first day of each school year and/or at annual parent meetings. Plans will also be available at any other parental engagement meetings throughout the school year.

Title I/Parent/Family Engagement Team
PLAN APPROVED BY (Person or Entity)

August 26, 2020
DATE OF APPROVAL