

**Dothan City Schools
Parent/Family/Community Engagement Plan
District Level**

Goal:

The goal of the Parent/Family/Community Engagement District Plan:

- Create a foundation for mutual partners to collaborate and work together for the success of the child
- Embrace the culture individuality of students and families
- Promote child, family, and school centered involvement programs
- Provide safe-space for parents and families to be heard and share in the decision-making process at the school and district level.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Parent/Family/Community Engagement District Plan is:

- Support Parent Involvement Specialists in developing and maintaining a school's parent/family/community engagement plan.
- Create a common vision of parent, family, and community engagement and resources needed to sustain that vision
- Increase and improve the level of family engagement/involvement in Dothan City Schools.

Component 1: Family-to-Family Support

The following strategies will be required by the school's Parent Involvement Specialist and appointed district director to facilitate in each school:

1. Orientation during the initial days of each school year that creates a welcoming space for parents to gather and talk informally with one another.
2. "Meet the Teacher"- event facilitating family to family interactions (Open House)
3. "Celebrate Month"- Month-long celebration of the students in the school that have received awards throughout the community.

Component 3: Family Participation/Decision Making

The following strategies will be required by the school's Parent Involvement Specialist and appointed district director to facilitate in each school:

1. Campus Site-Based Decision-Making Committee composed of campus staff, community partners, parents, and business representatives focusing on planning, curriculum, budgeting, staff development, overall school organization, all with the intent of improving the achievement of all learners at the campus.
2. Share strategies with parents on how to advocate for themselves and their children appropriately.

3. Analyze family enrollment information so educators can learn about the children in their classrooms from their parents' perspective and begin mutual goal setting with each family.

Component 2: Network Community Resources

The following strategies will be required by the school's Parent Involvement Specialist and appointed district director to facilitate in each school:

1. Establish business partnership to develop "school adoption" program.
2. Partnership between school counselors for "Resource Fair" program – Establish and facilitate with community resources to partner with parents and families to learn what resources invited organizations can provide (e.g. – mental health, physical health, employment resources, human resources).
3. Presentation to local area Chamber of Commerce – Share with local business leaders methods their organization can partner with local schools.
4. Establish the school's **Parent Resource Center** – Contain information and resources to improve communication among parents, school and community.

Component 4: Developing School Staff Skills

The following strategies will be required by the school's Parent Involvement Specialist and appointed district director to facilitate in each school:

1. Support teacher in developing educator skills to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant, and culturally responsive family engagement strategies.
2. Promoting and developing family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.
3. Teachers and the school's Parent Involvement Specialist will brainstorm and actively seek out methods parents can participate/volunteer within the classroom.
4. Train educators about the resources that are available in the community that support families' interests and needs.

Component 5: Evaluating Parent/Family/Community Engagement Plan

The following strategies will be required by the school's Parent Involvement Specialist and appointed district director to facilitate in each school:

1. Parent surveys will gain information on preferences of program components and parents' perception of program effectiveness. Survey results serve to improve program design and to increase parent outreach and involvement.
2. Incorporating goals related to family engagement into the program/campus strategic planning initiatives.
3. Using parents as equal partners with staff in reviewing family engagement results and making decisions regarding plans for continuous improvement.

Dothan City Schools
Family/Community Partnership Standards
2022-23 School Year

Standard 1: Family/Community Engagement

Family and community are active participants in schools and that their participation is valued, welcomed and connected. Families and schools are equal partners in the decision-making when it comes to student success

Standard 2: Supporting Student Success

Families and schools work collaboratively to ensure student success and positive mental health in both schools and at home. Ongoing opportunities are given to strengthen knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

Standard 3: Communicate Effectively

Families and schools regularly engage in on-going communication via face-to-face conferences, or through means of technology resources.

Standard 4: Community Collaboration

Families and schools collaboratively work together with community resources to provide assistance for students in the areas of learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

