

Lexington Park Elementary School
Title I
2017-2018 Parent Involvement Plan

2017-2018

The *No Child Left Behind Act* of 2002: Public Law 107-110, establishes requirements for parental notification and involvement in the development and implementation of their child's educational program to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The St. Mary's County Public Schools' Title I Parent Involvement Plan provides for compliance with all federal requirements and mandates, as defined by Public Law 107-110. The St. Mary's County Public School System Title I Parent Involvement Plan is aligned with the six goals of *Maryland's Plan for Family, School, and Community Involvement* as developed by the Division of Student and School Services of the Maryland State Department of Education, March 2003.

LPES Mission: The mission of LPES is to educate and inspire all students to learn in a safe, respectful, school community.

LPES Vision: The most important priority of the LPES community is to provide an educational learning environment that is nurturing, respectful and safe. LPES will be a place where students are greeted each day by staff that is enthusiastic, caring, creative and passionate about helping children learn in all areas of their development. All staff will model the cooperative team spirit necessary to provide excellent educational programs and services. LPES will be a place where all students will be included in multiple and varied opportunities to learn the essential basic skills necessary for the successful mastery of advanced academic skills and concepts. We will praise and be inspired by a diversity of ideas, promote an understanding of cultural similarities and differences, and teach ways to develop positive social skills and solve problems effectively.

Building upon the positive support of home and community partnerships, LPES will provide leadership that will instill in our students the pillars of character education. The six Character Education Pillars are: Respect, Caring, Fairness, Responsibility, Trustworthiness and Citizenship.

In our school, children will be first!

Goal 1: COMMUNICATION - Schools and families will communicate frequently and clearly about academic opportunities, school performance, student progress and our school-family partnerships.

School activities will include:

- **Parental Involvement Plan** - In collaboration with the Lexington Park Elementary parents and staff we reviewed and revised the Title One Parent Involvement Policy/Plan and School-Parent Compact on 3/12/17. Now we will discuss and distribute the plan and ask for suggestions at both our Open House, and Back to School Night. The Title I Parent Involvement Policy/Plan will also be posted on the Lexington Park Elementary School website.
- **Parent Involvement Calendar** –The 2017 -2018 Parent Involvement Calendar is attached.

- **Home/School Compact/STEM Contract** – Will be distributed to families at Open House (**August 31st**), reviewed on Back to School Night (**September 21st**) and again with parents at parent/teacher conferences.
- **Feedback** about our Parent Involvement Plan and School-wide Program Plan will be collected formally during quarterly school improvement team meetings; additional feedback will be gathered through other forms of communication such as parent surveys. Parent comments will be submitted to our Title I supervisor for review.
- **Communication Methods**-Lexington Park parents will be informed of statewide, local, and school events through weekly School Messenger updates, LPES website, local media, and monthly school/classroom newsletters. We will work with the county, our ESOL teacher, sign language resources, and various websites to ensure that the information is provided in a language the parents understand. School staff will respond promptly and positively to parents' phone calls, letters, and visits. Title I funds have been used to purchase and install voice mail for the school. This will allow families to make contact with school staff outside of regular business hours. The Parent Liaison will provide parent and family resources and use the cell phone purchased through the Title I budget to maintain contact with parents.
- **School Report Card/Individual Student Report** - Each LPES parent will be provided with information detailing state academic content standards and assessments as well as the progress of the school and the level of achievement of the parent's child in each of the state academic assessments required under the law. Individual Student Report Cards and Interim reports will be distributed to student families eight times during each school year. Parents may also log onto the Home Access Center to review student grades and progress at any time (NCLB Requirement).
- **School staff training (September 1, 2017)** – School staff will participate in training to support effective communication and collaboration with parents. Training will involve parent feedback in determining training needs.
- **Open House- (August 31st)** Inform parents of their school's participation in the Title I program, a description of the goals and support provided by Title I, and the right of parents to be involved. Families will have the opportunity to meet their child's classroom teacher(s).
- **Back to School Night- (Sept. 21st)** - Inform parents of their school's participation in the Title I program, a description of the goals and support provided by Title I, and the right of parents to be involved. Families will have the opportunity to meet their child's classroom teacher(s), learn about the grade level curriculum, understand homework expectations and routines, procedures and behavior expectations of the classroom.
- **Teacher/Paraprofessional Qualifications** – LPES parents have the right to request information concerning the professional qualifications of their child's teacher and qualifications of classroom para-educators. (NCLB Requirement)
- **Parent Conferences** – LPES will offer parents the opportunity to participate in a parent-teacher conference, at least annually, during which the school-parent compact shall be reviewed as it relates to the child's achievement. (NCLB Requirement)
- **Assessment Information Meeting for Parents (Jan 25, 2018)** Information regarding Common Core (College and Career Readiness) will be shared with families and will be directly connected to SMCP reading & math curriculum.

- **Community Organizations:** Representatives of community agencies are invited to school to speak with families so that they are aware of supports in the community. The Center for Children, Walden-Sierra and Tri-County Youth Services Bureau all provide mental health services on site at LPES. We have established partnerships with the Bay District Fire Department and Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad. We have a formal partnership with the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and we have many Navy volunteers who mentor our students. A variety of community organizations are solicited to participate in our Career Day. Through our 21st Century After-School Program, the Kiwanis Club sponsors a student “K Club” to support students in developing leadership skills. We have an excellent partnership with our local United Way organization who supplied snack-sacs for our most disadvantaged families throughout the school year. In addition we received support from many of our community groups who provide groceries each week for 40 families.
- **Awards Assemblies** – Parents are invited to quarterly assemblies where students are recognized for Honor Roll, Academic Improvement, Good Citizenship, and Perfect Attendance
- **School-wide Reading Incentive Program** –As a part of our IRLA framework implementation, students will be required to read at school and home. They will record the number of steps read which are in increments of 15 minutes. Upon completion of a set goal, students will participate monthly, quarterly, and end of year celebrations. Opportunities to earn additional steps in our 21st Century After-School Program. Additionally, Lunch and learn was held Monday – Thursday during the summer. Nutritional lunches were provided as well as a follow up fun activity to support reading.

Goal 2: PARENTING - Schools and communities will work together to support families’ parenting skills and activities that prepare young children for school and promote ongoing achievement.

School activities may include:

- **Parent Workshops/Panda Parent University** – As a part of our Panda Parent University framework, LPES will conduct two Literacy Parent Trainings (Oct. 26, 2017, and January 25, 2018), where families will engage in literacy activities with their children and learn about literacy curriculum expectations and how these expectations are reflected in SMCPS assessments and PARCC. We will use “parent-friendly” language to review strategies that parents can use while working with their children at home. Each family who attends will take home a book and their code for the IRLA eLibrary. LPES will also offer two Math Parent trainings (January 25, 2018 and March 8, 2018) where families will learn how to support their child’s math achievement and understand the expectations of SMCPS assessments and PARCC. Each family who attends will receive math resources to take home. In April (Date TBD) we will host Family Fun & Fitness Night where families learn about wellness techniques and participate in a variety of fitness activities. LPES will again engage a group of families in the Super Pantry program where families come to school cook and eat a meal together and then take home all of the ingredients for that healthy meal. Additionally, we may hold workshops and sponsor speakers that address parenting and child-rearing skills, behavior management, gang and drug awareness, bullying, internet safety, nutrition and health, and child and adolescent development during the day. We will be inviting community organizations to these activities to enhance communication between the community, school, and families. Pre-

K parents are invited to attend monthly meetings focused on nutrition activities paired with literacy. They are able to take home ideas for nutritious snacks and a book for their child.

- **Conveying Title 1 Information:** At Open House, Back to School Night, parent/teacher conferences, music concerts and Literacy and Math events we will inform parents of their school's participation in the Title I program. We will provide them with a description of the goals and support provided by Title I, and the right of parents to be involved. Additionally, our school pamphlet provides information about our participation in the Title I program.
- **Parent Liaison, Attendance Monitor and School Counselor** will work collaboratively with parents to facilitate attendance to parent events. Meeting times for parent events will occur using a varying schedule to accommodate work hours and parent schedules.
- **Home Visits** – Home visits will be scheduled when there is a significant concern about absenteeism. Students with absenteeism concerns will be carefully monitored and supported both in our school Attendance Club at home through home visits. When behavioral and/or academic concerns are evident and parents cannot be engaged through other means, a home visit will be conducted.
- **Parent Satisfaction Survey** – LPES shall conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement program in improving the academic quality of the school, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents. (NCLB Requirement)
- **Puberty Programs** – Mother/Daughter and Father/Son programs are offered to fifth grade families in the spring, to provide accurate information regarding puberty and physical changes.

Goal 3: STUDENT LEARNING - Families will support academic achievement at home by reading with children, helping them with homework, and engaging them in educational activities. School activities may include:

- **Home-School Compact** – LPES will develop, in collaboration with parents, a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. (NCLB Requirement)
- **Parent Workshops** – LPES will be holding two Literacy Parent Trainings (**Oct. 20th, and January 25th**), where families will engage in literacy activities with their children and learn about literacy curriculum expectations. We will use “parent-friendly” language to review strategies that parents can use while working with their children at home. Each child who attends will receive a book to take home. Each grade level will also offer two Math Parent Trainings (**January 25th, and March 9th**) to support families in helping their child learn mathematics. Each child who attends will receive a math manipulative to take home. We may hold workshops and sponsor speakers that address parenting and child-rearing skills, behavior management, gang and drug awareness, internet safety, nutrition and health, and child and adolescent development during our Literacy and Math Evenings. We will be inviting community organizations to these activities to enhance communication between the community, school, and families. Pre-K parents are invited to attend monthly meetings focused on nutrition activities paired with literacy. They are able to take home ideas for nutritious snacks and a book for their child.

- **Parent Conferences** – LPES will offer parents the opportunity to participate in a parent-teacher conference, at least annually, during which the school-parent compact shall be reviewed as it relates to the child’s achievement. (NCLB Requirement).

Goal 4: VOLUNTEERISM - Parents and community members will volunteer in support of school improvement and student success.

School activities will include:

- **Volunteer Solicitation** – Parents will be notified of the procedures for volunteering at LPES at the beginning of the school year at both Open House & Back to School Night.
- **Volunteer Log** – LPES will maintain a volunteer log that will be updated annually.
- **Volunteer Training** – LPES will provide training and support to ensure volunteers participate in a meaningful capacity that supports school improvement goals. This training is scheduled for **Friday, October 20th**.
- **Volunteer Recognition** – LPES will express volunteer appreciation to recognize school volunteers throughout the year and at an end-of year breakfast on **May 29, 2018**.
- **Volunteers for PBIS Activities** – Families will be invited to assist in the celebration of positive student behavior.

Goal 5: SCHOOL DECISION MAKING - Parents, schools, and community members will collaborate on educational decisions that affect children, families, and school improvement.

School activities may include:

- **School Improvement Team** – Parents will be invited to participate in the regularly scheduled school improvement team meetings, including Title I school budget planning and decision-making (March 20, 2018). (NCLB Requirement)
- **Information Sessions** – Will be provided quarterly on various areas of the curriculum, program and resources, (e.g., new math or reading resources, Maryland Common Core Standards Curriculum, federal requirements and guidelines under Title I, Title III, and IDEA at times and places accessible to family and community members as described in Goal 3.
- **School Events** – Families will be highly encouraged & supported by all staff members to participate in school events.
- **Parent Involvement Plan** – Will be posted on the LPES website and reviewed on Back to School Night (Sept. 21st)

Goal 6: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION - St. Mary’s County Public School System, including all Title I schools, will strive to collaborate effectively with The Maryland State Department of Education and local community organizations, agencies, and businesses to promote the academic achievement of all students and the success of all schools.

School activities may include:

- **Community Organizations:** Representatives from our community partners will be invited to school to speak with families so that they are aware of supports in the community and to offer resources at our Open House (**August 31st**) and all Panda Parent University events. Department of Social Services and Department of Housing will offer assistance about navigating their agencies. The Center for Children, Walden-Sierra and Tri-County Youth Services Bureau all provide mental health services on site at

LPES. We have also have the FLOW mentoring program and the Optimist Club who sponsor a student “K Club” to support students in developing leadership skills.

- **Recognition** - Our school will recognize publicly and/or privately the support of community/business partners
- **Career Day** - The School Counselor will organize community workers & helpers to present on careers in order to support students in making connections to their daily instruction. Additionally, in the 2017-2018 school year the School Counselor will also work with grade level teams to embed career awareness/opportunities into their interdisciplinary units of instruction.

***See the attached Lexington Park Elementary Parental Involvement Policy, Calendar, and Panda University description.**