

# SCINTILLA CHARTER ACADEMY

## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

2018-2019

FINAL-July 25, 2018



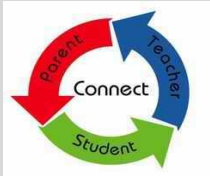
Scintilla Charter Academy

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## What is Title I?



In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Scintilla Charter Academy (SCA) has developed this parent and family engagement policy that establishes the school's expectations and objectives for meaningful family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships at SCA, a Title I school. This plan will describe SCA's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the 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 plan, and in carrying out the school improvement provisions. Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (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. Consistent with Section 1116, the ACSD will work with its Title I schools to ensure that the required school-level parent and family engagement policies meet the requirements of Section 1116(b) and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1116(d) of the ESSA.

## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

### What is Parent and Family Engagement?

Parent and 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 ESSA.



**Helping with homework is an important way to be involved.**

This plan further describes the different ways that SCA will support parent and family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to support scholars learning at home and at school.

## MORE.....

### How is it developed?

- Parent surveys-online and through paper copies by request
- Parent and Family Engagement Meetings
- Input from Coffee Chats

### Who is it for?

All scholars 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. Scintilla will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

### Where is it?

You can receive a copy of this plan...

- In the front office
- On the school website
- A paper copy by request
- In Parent Resource center

*“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents” – Jane D. Hull*

## 2018-2019 School Goals

1. In the 2018-2019 school year, SCA's CCRPI weighted proficiency score will increase by at least 6% in each content area based on 3rd-5th grade GMAS testing from the 2017-2018 school year.

2. In the 2018-2019 school year, SCA will see a 15% increase in the number of families and community members attending school events and volunteering in support of the school as measured by sign-in sheets and volunteer logs.

## School-Parent Compacts

The school-parent compact is an agreement developed jointly by the school, parents and scholars. The compact explains what the teachers and parents agree to do that will help our students reach high academic standards. The compact will be reviewed and revised annually based on feedback from parents, scholars, and teachers.

## LET'S GET TOGETHER!

Scintilla Charter Academy strives to provide a welcoming, trustful, and engaging environment through parent and family engagement activities and programs that promote scholar academic growth. The following activities will be provided:

- **Open House**

*Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.*

- Annual Title I Meeting

*We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts and parents' requirements. Reminders will be sent home in weekly communication folders, sent by email, and shared through social media.*

- **Celebrations of Learning**

*Celebrations of Learning will be held three times as year. This is an exciting opportunity to allow parents, families, and community members to see the amazing work of our scholars.*

- **Coffee Chats**

*Coffee Chats are held multiple times throughout the year and provide an opportunity for parents and families members to ask questions, provide input, and learn more about SCA in an informal setting.*

- **Community Circle**

*Every Friday, our entire school comes together in the Dining Room for a morning assembly. Grade levels rotate to lead Community Circle and do a short performance. Check the weekly email blast to see the grade level presenting for the week and feel free to join us!*

- **Other Parent and Family Engagement Activities**

*SCA offers a variety of parent and family engagement activities throughout the year. Please remember to check the weekly email blast for opportunities throughout the year!*

*"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader" –  
Margaret Fuller*



### Family and Community Outreach Coordinator

Contact Keri Wilkin,  
SCA's Family and  
Community Outreach  
Coordinator, to access  
materials and  
resources.

kwilkin@scintilla  
charteracademy.com

### Parent and Family Engagement

Scintilla Charter Academy believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of parents in school activities. It is the commitment of time, energy, and good will to promote success for our scholars. We also believe:

- That parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents and families should be welcomed and encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents and families 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.

## Scintilla's Commitment

Scintilla is committed to promote a positive working relationship between our school and our parents, so together we can promote and achieve higher academic standards for all scholars. We will:

- ✓ Provide a challenging curriculum and effective instruction that enables our students to meet the state's performance standards. Information regarding Georgia Standards of Excellence can be found at (<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards>) and grade level expectations will be communicated by teachers
- ✓ Inform parents of their child's progress through weekly folders, grade level newsletter, report cards and the schools websites
- ✓ Promote frequent two-way communication with families through parent/teacher conferences, newsletters, emails, phone calls, text messages and parent and family meetings
- ✓ Share information with parents in their language so that ALL parents can understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)
- ✓ Commit to work closely with Head Start and other Pre-K programs to insure that our students experience a smooth transition upon entering or exiting our school
- ✓ Provide training for our staff on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase parent and family engagement during grade level meetings and faculty meetings
- ✓ Provide parents with workshops, brochures, and other relevant information to assist parents when working with their children to improve achievement.
- ✓ Use our Family and Community Outreach Coordinator to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent involvement plan
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents at all events



Scintilla Charter Academy is committed to helping our parents attend the parent involvement activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you have any questions. (229)244-5750 or [info@scintillacharteracademy.com](mailto:info@scintillacharteracademy.com)



## Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Scintilla Charter Academy and our parents have established a PTO and are committed to the following standards:

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Scholar Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with our Community

## Parent and Family Team

Calling all Families!  
You are invited to join the Family Involvement Team to share ideas and ways to involve parents to build partnerships with school, families, and community. For additional information please complete the form provided or contact Amanda Miller at (229-244-5750 )or [amiller@scintillacharteracademy.com](mailto:amiller@scintillacharteracademy.com)

### Parent and Family Engagement Evaluation

Each year, SCA 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 schools through an annual parent survey and the School Improvement Forums.

In the spring, SCA 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 SCA's website for parents to complete. In addition to the annual survey, SCA 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.

SCA 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.

### Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements established by Section 1116 of the ESSA, the district family engagement coordinator will communicate and collaborate with the Office for Student Support 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.

This schoolwide parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly and agreed upon with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs as evidenced by the collaboration of parents and school personnel at the Parent and Family Engagement Meeting held on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

This policy was adopted by Scintilla Charter Academy on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and will be in effect for the 2018-2019 academic school year. The school district will distribute this policy in multiple ways to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.