District Parent and Community Involvement Plan
2009-2010

Laurel County Schools
716 North Main Street
London, KY 40741

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Greg E. Smith, Deputy Superintendent
Denise Minton Griebel, Asst. Superintendent

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Laurel County Board of Education
And Laurel County Schools
Parent and Community Involvement Plan
The purpose of the Title I Parent and Community Program/C.A.P.E. is to increase parent and community involvement in the Laurel County Schools.

“The evidence is consistent, positive, and convincing: families have a major influence on their children’s achievement in school and through life. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.” As a result, the Laurel County School System has adopted the following goals:

**Goals #1- Break down all barriers to parent involvement.**

- Make parents feel welcome in the schools and at the district level by encouraging their involvement in all areas from district level down.
- Make the volunteer process more efficient through the use of databases and the internet.
- Keep parents informed of their children’s academic achievement.
- Provide ongoing and updated information on the LCSS website and other media outlets.

**Goal #2- Involve the community in parent/community involvement**

- Invite agencies to participate in district and school level activities.
- Provide training for agencies expressing interest in participation in school level activities.
- Include the community in aspects of decision-making at the school and district level.
- Provide workshops/programs to parents and community members for family needs.

**Goal #3- Each school will attempt to implement an active PTO/PTA group**

- Title I Parent and Community Involvement Coordinator actively recruited parents to establish PTO/PTA’s at two schools in District that did not have such organization. One of the two now has an active PTO/PTA group while the other school is still working on organizing such a group.
- All other schools in the District have active PTA/PTO groups who promote family involvement activities and work closely with school staff.

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**Goal #4**- Each school shall provide opportunities for parents to volunteer in the schools

- Organized parent volunteer program is now in place in the District
- Volunteer database is kept district-wide, with select school staff members in each school having access to this information; provides data on approved volunteers such as contact information and organizations they represent if so involved
- Some schools have school volunteer coordinator (parent volunteer) who acts as liaison between school and parents to match volunteers with school activities requiring assistance

**Goal #5**- Evaluate the effectiveness of the Parent/community involvement plan on a regular basis

- Schools FRC/YSC’s report their parent volunteer hours to the Central Office on a regular basis
- Annual Title I parent meeting held at District level will include question concerning this program

A. The Laurel County School System shall involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parent/community involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) by using the following strategies:

- The Parent/community Involvement Advisory Committee, consisting of at least one parent from a middle school and a high school, and no less than 2 parents representing the elementary schools, shall review and provide input on the district’s Parent/Community Involvement Plan
- PTA/PTO president’s and parent coordinators shall share the information with parents at the school level
B. The Laurel County School System shall require the following actions to involve parents and community members in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA

- Each school shall be required to include parents and/or community members on its Consolidated Planning Committee.
- Parents will be represented on the Parent/community Involvement Advisory Council.
- Parents and community members will be encouraged to give suggestions for improvements at the district and school levels.
- The district shall strongly encourage each school to hold an annual Open House.

C. The necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title I schools in the planning and implementation of effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance will be done as follows:

- The district shall reserve 1% of the Title I budget for parental/community involvement activities.
- Title I Parent and community Involvement Coordinator with support from the FRC/YSC at each school shall provide training and support at the schools.
- All schools in the district shall be associated with a FRC/YSC to receive support in the areas of parental/community involvement.
- The Title I Parent and Community Involvement Coordinator shall act as liaison to the FRC/YSC and schools to provide technical assistance in the area of parent/community involvement.

D. The Laurel County School System shall build the schools', parent and community capacity for strong parent/community involvement by:

- Offering training for school personnel in parent engagement activities.
- Encourage parents, community members and teachers to attend state or local conferences on parent/community involvement.
E. The Laurel County School System shall coordinate and integrate parent/community involvement strategies and programs with the following agencies in the following ways:

- Laurel County Community Education Program- help parents and community members become self-sufficient by providing computer training, and other job improvement courses
- Family Resource Centers/Youth Service Centers- act as liaisons for parents to various agencies throughout the community through referrals, provide trainings, provide various items to meet community/school needs, coordinate school activities outside of hours, organize after-school daycare programs
- Parents as Teachers (PAT) works in conjunction with the FRC in providing home visits, developmental screenings and referrals
- Various other community agencies as school needs arise

F. The Laurel County School System will annually evaluate the Parent/Community Involvement Plan at its District Consolidated Planning Committee review meeting. At this time the district will review FRC/YSC usage, parent volunteer hours, community involvement activities, and other school-related activities. There are parent on the District Consolidate Planning committee.

G. The Laurel County School System shall make a realistic assessment of how services are meeting the needs of parents in the district and how the district has identified barriers which prevent strong participation of parents and community members in parental/community involvement activities (with particular emphasis to parents who economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency and have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) by using the following strategies:

- Parents/community members have/will be surveyed using generic school survey to determine the barriers to parental/community involvement
- Barriers to parent/community involvement will be addressed in district-wide meetings, FRC/YSC meetings, PTA/PTO meetings and other appropriate gatherings. Samples of barriers indicated by surveys are as follows:
  1. job restraints
  2. lack of transportation
  3. lack of child care
  4. lack of time
  5. not knowing volunteer were needed or were not contacted by school
  6. not receiving timely notification of volunteer activities
  7. feeling unwelcome in the school setting
G (i.) To address the perceived barriers

- The district shall attempt to address the specific needs of each school as funding allows.
- Non-English speaking parents shall be provided with district-wide services to assist them using the services of the ESL staff.
- Various agencies, options and grants will be researched for possible alternative resources to meet the needs in addressing some of these barriers (i.e. Transportation, job restraints, timely notification).

H. The Laurel County School System will evaluate the district’s findings of strategies to improve stronger parent/community involvement in the following manner:

- School will keep a log of volunteer hours. These logs will be sent to Central Office and will be compiled into a district-level report. The information will be shared with the District Level Consolidated Planning Committee and Parent/community Involvement Advisory Committee where strategies and possible funding strategies will be developed/discussed to address needs.
- The FRC/YSC’s will survey families they service in the district to plan for the next year’s program.
- Parent/community Involvement Advisory Committee will evaluate the Parent/Community Involvement Program in the spring of each year and discuss the program, activities, procedures, and policies. They will brainstorm on how to work with the community and gain support from government and community agencies. They will share this evaluation and information with the superintendent and LCBOE.

I. The Laurel County School System will design improvement strategies such as homework, attendance and discipline:

- All parents and guardians are provided with LCSS’s ‘Student code of Conduct’. This document outlines the discipline policy for the district. This document is also made available on the LCSS’s website.
- All students receive a student handbook with the homework and attendance requirements of the district.
- The LCSS website contains the link to all board policies, the district school calendar and acceptable use policy concerning computer/internet usage by students.
- Parents/guardians in ‘schools in improvement’ are notified of tutoring opportunities (supplemental Educational Services).
J. Laurel County School System shall develop strategies for more effective parent/community involvement in the district to improve student academic achievement through the following activities

■ The district shall provide two days each school year (1 per semester) for parent teacher conferences. These days will be used to meet with parents/guardians to discuss strategies for improving student academic success
■ The district shall encourage schools to develop ‘family reading night’ for the purpose of providing opportunities for parents to interact with their children in a library media setting, provide parents with strategies to help their children with reading/language arts and strengthen computer skills through the use of the Accelerated Reader program
■ The district shall require all schools to include parents in the development of (1) parent school compact and (2) a Parent/community/involvement plan
■ The district shall provide training to parents on (1) the State’s academic content standards, (2) how to monitor their child’s progress, (3) how to work with educators, (4) how to receive services that are available (Homework hotline, Virtual High School, FRC/YSC services, etc.)
■ School Report cards are mailed to each home and are posted on the LCSS website
■ Parent workshops will be provided on how to interpret the School report card
■ Workshops conducted by school personnel, qualified/knowledgeable personnel, and trainers will be offered at the district level and/or schools
■ Each school will inform parents about the curriculum and provide access to all learning material during the district scheduled Parent Teacher Conference Days
■ Each school will have a separate page with a description, list of staff, news and events for just that school, etc. on the LCSS website
■ A copy of the district’s Parent/community Involvement Plan will be made available at each school and at the district level buildings

K. Laurel County School System has built two parent-teacher conference days into the school calendar for each school.
L. Laurel County School System has a website with a variety of information including the following:

- School report cards
- District calendar
- District/school news and events
- Links to individual school webpages
- Email addresses of school personnel
- Links to parent resources
- Links to student resources

M. The Laurel County School System shall develop various strategies to communicate information to parents and community members

- Information concerning volunteer activities, news and events in the schools will be posted on the LCSS website

- Information concerning volunteer activities, news and events in the schools will be sent to the local radio stations, newspapers and television billboards as well as local bank marquees. This will ensure readers as well as non-readers have opportunities to be notified of school activities, news and events
### District Parent Advisory Council Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Representing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Chestnut</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Johnson Elementary</td>
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<td>Gina Deaton</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Bush Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stella Delph</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Campground Elem, N.L.M.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tammy Moren</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Wyan-Pine Grove Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teresa House</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Hunter Hills Elem., S.L.M.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Harris</td>
<td>Parent/Community</td>
<td>N.L.H.S., Johnson, C.V.N.B.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridget Irvine</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>N.L.M.S.,</td>
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<td>Lonnie Marcum</td>
<td>Parent/Community</td>
<td>S.L.H.S., WYMT Television</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Hibbitts</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Cold Hill Elem.</td>
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<td>Cheryl McCarty</td>
<td>Parent/Community</td>
<td>S.L.H.S., Ford Bros. Real., Ashmor Kennels</td>
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<td>Josette McQueen</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>London Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danny Miles</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>S.L.H.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridget Smith</td>
<td>Parent/Community</td>
<td>N.L.H.S., Shiloh Roadhouse, Olympic Clean</td>
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<td>Debra Thompson</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>S.L.M.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gilbert Acciardo</td>
<td>FRC Director</td>
<td>Bush/Campground/Johnson Elem.</td>
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<td>Denise Griebel</td>
<td>Asst. Superintendent</td>
<td>Laurel County Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Johnson</td>
<td>Title I Resource Teacher</td>
<td>Hazel Green Elementary</td>
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<td>Marilyn Lawson</td>
<td>FRC Director</td>
<td>Colony/Hazel Green Elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bettye McDaniel</td>
<td>Title I Resource Teacher</td>
<td>Keavy Elementary</td>
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<td>Debbie Reed</td>
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<td>Laurel County Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Smith</td>
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