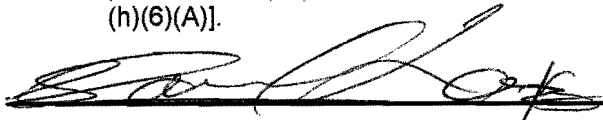


VAN E. BLANTON ELEMENTARY SCHL Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Plan

I, Tangela D. Goa, do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of assurances for these waivers. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.

Assurances

- The school will be governed by the statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with the definition outlined in Section 9101(32), ESEA;
- Involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A in decisions about how Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent [Section 1118(b)(1) and (c)(3)];
- Jointly develop/revise with parents the school parental involvement policy and distribute it to parents of participating children and make available the parental involvement plan to the local community [Section 1118 (b)(1)];
- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b)(2) [Section 1118(c)(3)];
- Use the findings of the parental involvement policy review to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the school's parental involvement policy [Section 1118(a)(E)];
- If the plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency [Section 1118(b)(4)];
- Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the state assessment in at least mathematics, language arts, and reading [Section 1111(h)(6)(B)(i)];
- Provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in 34 CFR Section 200.56 [Section 1111(h)(6)(B)(ii)]; and
- Provide each parent timely notice information regarding their right to request information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals [Section (h)(6)(A)].



Signature of Principal or Designee

10/01/15

Date Signed

Mission Statement

Parental Involvement Mission Statement (Optional)

Response: Van E. Blanton Elementary School is committed to integrally involving parents in all aspects of the education process. By building a solid partnership between the home and the school, the learning experience for all students is greatly enhanced. Placing a high priority on parent involvement, the school arranges parent meetings at flexible times. The alliance formed amongst the school, families, and the community empowers parents with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist in the academic preparation as well as the social development of their children.

Involvement of Parents

Describe how the school will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parental involvement will be used [Sections 1118(c)(3), 1114(b)(2), and 1118(a)(2)(B)].

Response: Van E. Blanton Elementary School embraces parents as partners in education. The Family Resource Center serves as an onsite facility that exists exclusively to accommodate parents and families. To get parents acclimated with the education process, the school informs parents of structured programs available to their children and seeks their input and feedback in various ways. At designated times, the school extends an opportunity for parents to visit classrooms, meet teachers and become familiar with the instructional curriculum, as well as the functions and activities of the school. After receiving feedback from parents via surveys or other communication mediums, the Community Involvement Specialist coordinates and sponsors adult workshops to educate parents on the benefits of eating nutritiously, effective parenting skills, the citizenship process, food handling and other areas as specified by parents. A series of Florida Standards Assessment workshops will be offered to equip parents with the skills, materials and resources necessary to assist in the academic preparation of their children. An important role assumed by parents is that of room parent. Serving in this capacity, parents are exposed to all facets of the learning environment. Given that parents are vital stakeholders, many attend and are members of the Educational Excellence School Advisory Council (EESAC), which is the decision-making entity for this site. As members of the EESAC, parents are directly involved in rendering decisions relevant to fiscal matters. These include appropriation of funds for the Family Resource Center and its activities; student incentives and recognitions; teacher training; and other school-related business. Moreover, as members of the EESAC, parents are afforded the opportunity to help develop and monitor the School Improvement Plan (SIP).

Additionally, Title I School Improvement Grant/Fund support funding and assistance to Van E. Blanton Elementary School based on 98% of students eligible to receive free or reduced lunch. The Voluntary Public School Choice Program (I Choose!) a federally funded grant, is a district wide initiative designed to assist in achieving the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' District's Strategic Plan goal to expand the availability of and access to high quality public school choice options for all parents in Miami-Dade County. Voluntary Public School Choice grant funds are used to evaluate programs, inform parents of educational options, and re-culture teaching practices to establish quality school environments.

Coordination and Integration

Describe how the school will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities that teach parents how to help their children at home, to the extent feasible and appropriate, including but not limited to, other federal programs such as: Head Start, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, public preschool, Title I, Part C, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Title VI [Section 1118(e)(4)].

count	Program	Coordination
1	Title I	Operation of Parent Resource Center
2	Title III	Parent outreach activities (FSA Workshops, ESOL Classes, Parenting Classes)
3	Parenting Class	Present specific information to parents regarding Internet safety and overview of core subjects, including reading/mathematics/writing/science subjects.
4	VPK	The Title I office and the VPK office will work together to coordinate transition programs for students entering the regular public school program. Activities may

		include: coordinated meetings with parents, VPK teachers, and the kindergarten teachers to discuss the specific learning needs of students and ensure a smooth transition.
5	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	During the development of IEPs, instructional support as provided by Title I will be discussed.

Annual Parent Meeting

Describe the specific steps the school will take to conduct an annual meeting designed to inform parents of participating children about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program (schoolwide or targeted assistance), Adequately Yearly Progress, school choice, supplemental educational services, and the rights of parents. Include timeline, persons responsible, and evidence the school will use to demonstrate the effectiveness of the activity [Section 1118(c)(1)].

count	Activity/Tasks	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Open House	CIS	September 9, 2015	Parent Feedback
2	Title I Parent Orientation	CIS	September 9, 2015	Parent Feedback
3	PTSA/Informational	CIS	September 18, 2015	Parent Survey

Flexible Parent Meetings

Describe how the school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services related to parental involvement [Section 1118(c)(2)].

Response: In order to ensure that parents are fully involved in the educational experience of their children, the school will offer flexible meetings convenient to their schedules. For parents who work during business hours parallel to the regular school day, meetings/conferences will be arranged before the start or beyond the hours of the official school day. When applicable, meetings will be scheduled during teachers' non-instructional time. This will allow some teachers to conference with parents during planning time. In cases where it is conflict-free, administration will receive parents at varying intervals throughout the school day. The Community Involvement Specialist will make home visits to parents who are unable to visit the school site.

Building Capacity

Describe how the school will implement activities that will build the capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement [Section 1118(e)]. Describe the actions the school will take to provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement [Section 1118(e)(2)]. Include information on how the school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request [Section 1118(e)(14)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Open House/ Assessments/Measurement Tools/Systems	CIS/Instructional Personnel	Familiarize parents with assessments utilized to measure achievement.	September 2015	Parent Logs
2	FSA Workshop	CIS/Teachers	Parents will gain	January	Parent Logs/

			insight specific to the Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and FSA tested Benchmarks.	2016	Student Achievement
3	Mother's Day/ Father's Day Workshop	CIS	Parents will understand the significance of their role in education.	May 2016- June 2016	Parent Logs/ Student Achievement
4	Food and Nutrition Workshops	CIS	Information correlating the connection between eating nutritiously and student achievement will be discussed.	January 2016 - April 2016	Parent Logs
5	Effective Parenting Classes	CIS	Parents will understand the significance of their role in their child's education.	November 2015 and February 2016	Parent Logs/ Student Achievement
6	Parent Portal Workshop	CIS	Parents will be trained on how to set up their Parent Portal accounts, how to monitor student grades, and access available resources and information pertinent to their child/school.	September 2015-April 2016	Parent Logs

Staff Training

Describe the professional development activities the school will provide to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and schools [Section 1118(e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Faculty Meeting/ Educate the Educators	CIS/Leadership Team	Enhance the ability of staff to empathize and work with parents	September 2015	Sign-in sheets, agendas
2	New Teacher Support Meeting	Administrators	Teachers will better understand how to effectively plan, manage behavior, maintain organization, collaborate their peers, reach out to the community for financial assistance (donors Choose), and grade assignments according to district policies.	September 23, 2015	Sign-in sheets, agendas
3	Faculty Meeting/Best Practices Modules	CIS/Leadership Team	Enhance the ability of staff to empathize and work with parents	September 2015- February 2016	Sign-in sheets, agendas

Other Activities

Describe the other activities, such as parent resource centers, the school will conduct to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children [Section 1118 (e)(4)].

Response: Van E. Blanton Elementary School exerts maximum effort to involve parents and families in all facets of the school's functions and operations.

Notification such as the school's performance grade, AMO-2 status, and the School Choice Plan will be provided to parents and caregivers, as applicable. The Community Involvement Specialist (CIS), funded by Title 1, manages and supervises the Family Resource Center daily and actively elicits and recruits parent participation in school activities. The CIS utilizes an array of effective forums to communicate with parents, including home visitations, telephone calls, technology, the marquee and parent flyers. The CIS coordinates and sponsors parent workshops, both during the school day and in the evening hours. In addition, the CIS organizes self-enhancing classes for adult stakeholders, including ESOL, Nutrition and Parenting skills. Other avenues the school engages to encourage parent involvement are the Counselor's Corner newsletter, parent handbook (compiled in English, Spanish and Creole), parent notices (compiled in English, Spanish and Creole) and the school's website. The school recognizes the benefit of involving parents in the education process and is unrelenting in its pursuit to secure their participation in the learning experience. Research depicts that parent involvement supports students' learning, behavior, and attitudes regardless of factors such as parents' income, educational level, and whether or not parents are employed. Parents will continue to be apprised of the school's direction and expectations through open meetings such as: Open House, Title I Parent Orientation, Educational Excellence School Advisory Council (EESAC) and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meetings. In addition, major events in which parents and community come together include the holiday program (December), Science Fair, and National Nutrition Week. The ongoing communication with parents (in the students' home language) will occur between the home and the school through the use of interim progress reports, report cards, letters, flyers, parent/teacher conferences, home visits, technology and telephone calls.

Communication

Describe how the school will provide parents of participating children the following [Section 1118(c)(4)]:

- Timely information about the Title I programs [Section 1118(c)(4)(A)];
- Description and explanation of the curriculum at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet [Section 1118(c)(4)(B)];
- If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children [Section 1118(c)(4)(C)]; and
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114 (b)(2) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will include submit the parents' comments with the plan that will be made available to the local education agency [Section 1118(c)(5)].

Response: Van E. Blanton Elementary School recognizes the critical need to provide parents of participating children expeditious and accurate information about the school, its programs, its personnel and its curriculum. The school maintains open channels of communication with all parents and caregivers of students. During the Annual Title I Orientation Meeting, parents are apprised of programs and opportunities funded through this initiative, and the process to gain accessibility to these programs. During parent conferences, FSA Workshops, and via student/parent portals, parents gain information

relevant to curriculum specificities and various assessment tools/systems used to measure student progress. Parents are further informed of student performance - and whether this level of functioning meets, exceeds or falls short of mastery level. The meetings extend the opportunity for teachers to convey critical information, including expectations of student achievement; academic requirements for respective grade levels and current level of performance. Moreover, teachers will provide parents with home learning activities that will enable them to assist their children. Other channels of communicating with parents include: Newsletters, ConnectEd (in multiple languages), parent flyers, and the school website.

The school accommodates the request of parents for regular or consistent meetings in order for parents to voice their concerns regarding the education of their children. Parent meetings are arranged before or after school and when appropriate during teacher's planning time.

The Parent Academy, a District-sponsored effort, encourages parents to express their comments regarding the local education system through its open forum. The school likewise supports the active involvement of parents in the education process.

Accessibility

Describe how the school will provide full opportunities for participation in parental involvement activities for all parents (including parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children). Include how the school plans to share information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports, and other activities in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practical, in a language parents can understand [Section 1118(e)(5) and 1118(f)].

Response: Van E. Blanton Elementary School invests time and effort into fully involving parents in the learning experience of their children. The school will continue to involve parents through a variety of ways, including the Educational Excellence School Advisory Committee (EESAC), Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Family Resource Center, parent volunteers, parent workshops, multicultural events and meetings. The school's outreach to families is all-inclusive and embraces parents of SWDs and ELL students. Parents are notified of and encouraged to attend and provide input at IEP meetings and staffings, LEP Committee meetings, and other meetings relevant to servicing and placing their child/(ren) with special needs or those with limited English proficiency in the most appropriate setting.

School reports will be shared with parents through a web-based method. The Parent Portal will allow access to information on their child's/(ren's) progress, grades, and attendance. Ongoing communication from teachers, administration, clerical staff, and the CIS will provide essential information that will assist parents in locating and accessing the site by utilizing the parent pin number. The combination of progress reports and report cards will present parents with information regarding student progress.

Discretionary Activities

Discretionary School Level Parental Involvement Policy Components Check if the school does not plan to implement discretionary parental involvement activities. Check all activities the school plans to implement:

count	Activity	Description of Implementation Strategy	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline
1	Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training [Section 1118(e)(6)]; and	During EESAC meetings, parents will offer their input on what training should be provided to personnel.	EESAC Chairperson, Principal	Parents will be more supportive and willing to work in conjunction with teachers to ensure student achievement.	September 2015
2	Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the LEA has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training [Section 1118(e)(7)]; and	FSA Workshop	CIS/Leadership Team	Along with providing FSA-related materials and resources, the opportunity will also be availed for families to read together and reflect on an array of literary works.	January 2016
3	Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents [Section 1118(e)(9)];	During PTA meetings, parents will be encouraged to reach out to others parents in order to expand the Parent Involvement Component in the school.	CIS, PTA President,	Empower parents with the skills necessary to assist in the academic preparation of their children.	November 2015- May 2016
4	Maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school [Section 1118(e)(10)];	Conferences and meetings to discuss and address student progress will be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time. The CIS will conduct home visits as needed.	CIS, Instructional Personnel, Administration	The conferences will notify parents of student performance, the need for intervention, which intervention will be utilized, classroom curriculum, and other facets directly related to student and/or school matters.	September 2015- May 2016
5	Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities [Section 1118(e)(13)].	Local political leaders as well as Clergy will be invited to speak at parent meetings. This will allow for interaction and dialogue with vital members of the team, including the home, school and community.	CIS	Community-based organizations and faith-based organizations have enormous influence on education. Thus, communication between and among these vital team members would be of great benefit to parents, students and the school.	November 2015

Upload Evidence of Input from Parents

Upload evidence of parent input in the development of the plan.

Uploaded Document

Upload Parent-School Compact

Note: As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy/plan, each school shall jointly develop, with parents for all children served under this part, a parent-school compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement Section 1118(d)].

Upload an electronic version of the Parent-School Compact.

Uploaded Document

Upload Evidence of Parent Involvement in Development of Parent-School Compact

Note: As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy/plan, each school shall jointly develop, with parents for all children served under this part, a parent-school compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement Section 1118(d)].

Upload evidence of parent input in the development of the compact.

Uploaded Document

Evaluation of the previous year's Parental Involvement Plan

Building Capacity Summary

Provide a summary of activities provided during the previous school year that were designed to build the capacity of parents to help their children [Section 1118 (e)(1-2)]. Include participation data on the Title I annual meeting.

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
1	Food and Nutrition Workshops	1	25	Information correlating the connection between eating nutritiously and student achievement will be discussed.
2	Mother's Day/ Father's Day Workshop	2	100	Parents will understand the significance of their role in education.
3	SAT-10/FSA/FCAT Workshop	1	50	Parents will gain insight specific to the Florida Standards, Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, and content addressed on the SAT-10.
4	Open House/ Assessments/Measurement Tools/Systems	1	247	Familiarize parents with assessments utilized to measure achievement

Staff Training Summary

Provide a summary of the professional development activities provided by the school during the previous school year to educate staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; the implementation and coordination of parent programs; and how to build ties between parents and the school [Section 1118 (e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
1	Faculty Meeting/ Educate the Educators	1	32	Enhance the ability of staff to empathize and work with parents
2	Cultural Sensitivity Activities	1	32	Inform staff of the diversity that exist within the student population, and present information specific to the various ethnicities
3	Faculty Meetings/Building Bridges	10	32	Enhance the ability of staff to empathize and work with parents

Barriers

Describe the barriers that hindered participation by parents during the previous school year in parental involvement activities. Include the steps the school will take during the upcoming school year to overcome the barriers (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) [Section 1118(a)(E)].

count	Barrier (Including the Specific Subgroup)	Steps the School will Take to Overcome
1	Parent Schedules	Offer flexible meetings convenient to their schedules. For parents who work

		during business hours parallel to the regular school day, meetings/conferences were arranged before the start or beyond the hours of the official day.
2	Internet Access	Provide parents with resources to affordable Internet access. Make computer lab/Resource Center computers accessible to parents during the school day. Provide information on the public library system.

Best Practices (Optional)

Describe the parental involvement activity/strategy the school implemented during the previous school year that the school considers the most effective. This information may be shared with other LEAs and schools as a best practice. (Optional)

count	Content/Purpose	Description of the Activity
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