What is Title I?
Devereux Ackerman Academy is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning. Title I programs are based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop a written parental involvement policy with parent input.

How is it revised?
Devereux Ackerman Academy has jointly developed this policy and compact with our parents to describe how we will support the important role of parents in the education of their children. In cases where the students reside in a Neglected and Delinquent residential facility, a representative from that Facility can serve as a proxy for the parent(s). At Ackerman Academy, we build capacity for parent/community involvement by implementing the six types of involvement: Parenting, Communications, Parent Volunteering, Learning at Home, Decision-making and Governance, and Collaboration and Exchanges in the Community. This policy will be distributed to all students in their Friday Folders. The policy will be distributed to Ackerman Academy Partners in Education, along with Community Friends of Devereux Ackerman Academy throughout the year.

Who is it for?
All students 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. Devereux Ackerman Academy will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English, disabilities and migratory children. In cases where students reside in a Neglected and Delinquent residential facility, a representative from that facility can serve as a proxy for the parent(s).

Where is it available?
The plan is made available to all students and parents. As a reminder, we will mail the plan to families as well as post it on the school’s website. In addition, copies of the plan may be retrieved in the Admissions Building and the School Office. New students and parents will receive a copy of the Policy and Compact upon admission.
2020–2021 District Goals

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, 100% of the schools and district will continue to use our collaborative data-driven process, Cobb Collaborative Community (CCC), with fidelity to improve learning.

- Cobb County School District will increase the participation rate of families and communities engaging in services/programs by 10% as measured by ParentVue data, survey results & web view module.

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, 100% of the schools and district will use a common district assessment to measure the impact of professional learning which will, in turn guide decisions on how best to support teachers and leaders in high poverty/needs schools.

- By the end of the 2022 school year, increase effective implementation of multi-tiered systems of support by increasing access to programs/resources to prepare students for college and careers as measured by participation rates.

2020–2021 School Goals

- Provide consistent opportunities for students to experience Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in a safe classroom environment during the 2020-2021 school year through implementation of DESSA (Devereux Student Strengths Assessment) curriculum as measured by program outcomes.

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, increase the percentage of students demonstrating growth in Reading by 15% from one Benchmark to the next as measured by AIMSWeb.

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, increase the percentage of students demonstrating growth in Math by 10% from one Benchmark to the next as measured by AIMSWeb.

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**School-Parent Compact**

A School-Family Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all students are working towards mastering grade-level standards.

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**Ackerman Academy Happenings and You’re Invited!**

Devereux Ackerman Academy will host the following events to build capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community, which leads to improved academic achievement.

**State of the School ~ September 17, 2020**
Families are given information about our school and state's academic content standards and assessments. Copies of the school’s Title I Policy and Compact as well as the Title I funding/expenditures will be shared and explained.

**Professional Development Dates ~**
- September 17, 2020
- October 27, 2020
- January 28, 2021 (Parents invited)
- April 14, 2021

Learn about Building Capacity strategies that create Powerful Partnerships to enhance learning.

**Fall School Improvement Forum ~ October 13, 2020**
A forum for parents and guardians to participate in roundtable discussions with the Education team regarding the 2020-2021: School Improvement Plan, Parental Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact and the Parental Involvement Budget.

**Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences ~ October 13, 2020 & March 23, 2021**
Updates are scheduled to discuss your child’s academic progress.

**Community Connections Forum:**
- Tommy Nobis ~ Fall 2020 & Spring 2021
- Scholastic Book Fair ~ Fall November 16-20, 2020 and Spring March 29-April 2, 2021

Partnership to connect students to the real world while improving life and literacy skills.

**Principal Forum ~ January 14, 2021**
Administration Q & A. Share information regarding student progress and 2020-2021 goal update.

**Curriculum Enrichment Event ~ February 2021**
Come out, meet our education staff to ask questions and learn about how to make Math and Reading fun outside of the classroom.

**Virtual Family and Community Engagement Hub Seminar ~ February 25, 2021**
Find out about a virtual Family and Community Engagement resource hub (The F.A.C.E. Hub). A source that will provide school and district information, community resources, virtual tools to enhance learning at home, as well as resources to assist with social and emotional learning for families in this time of a pandemic.

**Spring School Improvement Forum ~ March 23, 2021**
A forum for parents and guardians to participate in roundtable discussions with the Education team to provide feedback on the 2020-2021: School Improvement Plan, Parental Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact and the Parental Involvement Budget and to plan for 2021-2022.

**Parent and Partner Appreciation ~ May 6, 2021**
Celebrate parent engagement and recognize community partners.

**Transitional Planning Meetings ~ Monthly August 2020 – June 2021**
Each family meet with staff monthly to discuss goals, progression and plan of action for student success.
Family Engagement
Devereux Ackerman Academy believes that parental involvement is the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student learning and other school activities, to include the following:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school.
- 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.

Parent Resource Center
You may visit the parent resource center for resources and activities to use for learning with your child. Please call or email our parent facilitator if you need assistance, have comments or concerns about family engagement or if you are interested in volunteering.

Crista Ryan
770-738-2680
AckermanAcademy@devereux.org

Devereux Ackerman Academy will continue to build strong parent engagement!

Devereux Ackerman Academy will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our goals.

- Information related to school, parent programs, meetings, and other activities are published in English and available on the school website. (Spanish copies are available upon request)
- To strengthen communication with families, all staff will be equipped with strategies and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- Information is shared on the school website for parents to understand the school’s academic standards and assessments, as well as ways in which parents can monitor their child’s progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Provide support materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to assist with improving their child’s achievement.
- Utilize our Partners in Education and School Leadership Team to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.
- Enhance communication by facilitating ‘Good News’ communication, thus keeping parents informed of their child’s growth and progress towards achieving their goals.
- Collect feedback from parents at all events, place input cards in the main office and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
School Community Team
Devereux Ackerman Academy invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit ideas or suggestions at any school activities or meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please email Sherry McKenzie, Principal, or Crista Ryan, Parent Facilitator, or complete the interest form on the right and email it to AckermanAcademy@devereux.org or leave in the main school office.

Family Engagement Standards
Devereux Ackerman Academy and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school’s model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

School – Family and Community Involvement Committee

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more joining the School Community Team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: ________________________________
Child’s Name and Grade: ________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
Phone Number: ________________________________
Email address: ____________________________________________

Or email us at AckermanAcademy@devereux.org

Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have comments or suggestions please contact us using the email link below or stop our education office.

Name: (optional) ________________________
Telephone Number: (optional) ____________________

Or email us at AckermanAcademy@devereux.org