CARL SANDBURG LEARNING CENTER

Engaging and Cultivating Lifelong Learners with Cheetah Pride and Gratitude!

Title I Family Engagement Plan 2026-2027

At Carl Sandburg Learning Center, we believe students succeed when schools and families work together. We strive to create a welcoming space where all caregivers—parents, guardians, and family members—feel encouraged to be involved.

We invite you to share your ideas on our:

- School Improvement Plan
- Home-School Compact
- Parent & Family Engagement Plan
- Title I Parent Involvement Budget



You can get involved by:

- Joining the School Improvement Team
- Serving on the Family Engagement Committee
- Completing parent surveys



Questions or want to participate? Contact the principal, **Ms. Jada Langston, (Jada_Langston@mcpsmd.org)**

Together, we can make a difference!

How We Support Family Involvement at Carl Sandburg Learning Center

As a Title I school, we follow specific requirements to involve families in meaningful ways. Here's how we make sure families have a voice and the support they need:



General Requirements

- Describe how you will involve parents in determining how family involvement funds will be spent.
  - *Parents help decide how family involvement funds are used by providing feedback during parent events (parent cheetah chat meetings and school events).*
- When and how will you involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving the school's Parent Engagement Plan and program, and School Improvement Plan (SIP) ?
  - *Gathering input through the parent cheetah chat and during the family engagement committee meetings.*
- Identify how and when you will distribute the school's Parent Engagement Plan to all parents.
  - *The school parent engagement plan will be shared on the school website and provided in the parent newsletter.*
- We hold an annual Title I meeting on **October 15 & 27** to provide information about the Title I program, parental rights, and the important role parents play in their children's education.

- What is your process for gathering parents' comments about the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and your timeline/process to submit those comments to MCPS Title I?
    - *Extending invitations to parents for School Improvement Planning sessions*
    - *Presenting the SIP throughout additional family-oriented gatherings*
- When will you develop a written school-parent compact with parents, and how will you provide timely information about school programs to families?
    - *The school-parent compact is created in collaboration with the family engagement committee.*
    - *It will be distributed through parent-teacher conferences, published on the school website, and included in the Title I parent newsletter.*

Building Capacity

- How will you help parents understand State and local academic assessments used to measure academic progress, State academic standards,, how to monitor child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children?
    - *During our Principal and Parent cheetah chat sessions, we review state and local academic assessments, explain how to interpret score reports, and guide families on tracking their child's progress. Additionally, teachers provide regular updates and practical strategies during parent-teacher conferences and curriculum nights to help families collaborate effectively with educators.*
- Describe how you will provide materials and parent training/workshops to help parents improve their children's academic achievement.
    - *We host interactive family workshops, including Literacy and Math Nights, focused on practical strategies for home learning. Families receive targeted educational materials, leveled reading toolkits, and hands-on math manipulatives to directly support skill development and reinforce classroom instruction at home.*
- How and when will you provide training for staff about how to work with parents as equal partners?
    - *Staff participate in a professional learning session on effective parent teacher conferences, and receive resources and an overview of the parent-school compact. Additionally, quarterly workshops and collaborative team meetings provide ongoing training on culturally responsive communication, collaborative goal-setting, and strategies for engaging families as equal partners in student learning.*
- Describe your work with other agencies and programs that support parental engagement, such as Special Education, ESOL, Linkages to Learning, Judy Center, Health Department, and the Public Library.
    - *We collaborate through community school partnerships centered on health, social services, leadership, and family engagement. These initiatives empower student learning and nurture healthy families by offering comprehensive intervention and prevention resources to promote student achievement.*

Accessibility

- How will you provide information in a format and language that parents will understand to the greatest extent possible?
    - *Our school community receives communications in diverse formats and translated languages to ensure full accessibility for all families.*
- How will you provide reasonable support (transportation, childcare, provide a variety of meeting times and locations) for parental involvement activities?
    - *To ensure all families can attend, we provide complimentary childcare and transportation assistance upon request for school-wide family engagement events. Meetings are offered in flexible formats—both in-person and virtually—and scheduled across morning, afternoon, and evening time slots to accommodate varied work schedules.*
- Describe how you will offer a flexible number of meetings to enable increased participation by families, including morning and evening meetings.

- *To maximize family attendance, we host sessions at multiple times throughout the day: morning sessions starting at 9:30 AM, afternoon sessions starting at 4:00 PM, and evening sessions starting at 7:00 PM.*



Looking for helpful information to support your child's growth and learning?

Discover Resources for Your Family!
Check out the Maryland Families Engage website!
It's a free, easy-to-use resource created by the Maryland State Department of Education.

Mark your calendar!



This is a tentative calendar of Parent and Family Engagement Events for 2026-2027. Additional messaging will be shared throughout the school year regarding upcoming events.

Dates:	Event Name:	Additional Details:
September 30, 2026 October 27, 2026 November 24, 2026 January 26, 2027 February 23, 2027 March 23, 2027 April 27, 2027 May 25, 2027 June 22, 2027	Cheetah Chats (Virtual Parent Cafes)	Informal virtual discussions with parents and guardians to discuss school programs, student progress, and collect parent feedback.
September 9, 2026	Back to School Night and Resource Fair	An opportunity for families to meet school staff, tour classrooms, and explore community and school resources.
October 15, 2026	Zones of Regulation Night and Resource Table	Interactive session focused on self-regulation and emotional well-being strategies for home and school.
November 23, 2026	Manna Pop-up and Turkey Distribution at School	Community food distribution event providing holiday meals and food support to school families.
December 16, 2026	Family Night (Paint and Play)	A creative family bonding evening featuring painting activities, games, and social connection.

January 21, 2026	Literacy Night	An evening dedicated to literacy strategies, reading activities, and distribution of home learning materials.
March 18, 2027	International Night	Celebration of our diverse community with cultural presentations, food, performances, and activities.
April 15, 2027	Family Resource Fair	Connecting families with community partners, health agencies, and local support organizations.
May 21, 2027	Spring Festival (during school)	School-wide celebration for students and families featuring fun activities, games, and community building.

Other Community School Efforts

- Parents on Steering Committee
- Free Book Fair for Students (Donations from Barnes and Noble)
- Manna Weekend Bags
- Holiday Giving (Montgomery County and 4 Seasons Giving Tree)
- Healthy Snack Program and Donations from Roots Market
- Family Referrals (Respite Care and Linking to Other Community Partners)
- Parent Square Communication with Families/ Community Corner and by Location
- Volunteer Building Initiative
- Assemblies
- Community Closet
- Yoga (in progress/waiting for central office funding and approval)
- Playworks Consulting (in progress/waiting for central office funding and approval)
- Staff Appreciation Efforts (Donations for wellness bags and lunches)
- Winter Wonderland