

111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5211

To strengthen families' engagement in the education of their children.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself and Mr. PLATTS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To strengthen families' engagement in the education of their children.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Family Engagement  
5       in Education Act of 2010”.

6       **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7       The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Findings; purpose.
- Sec. 4. Amendment references.
- Sec. 5. State support of family engagement in education.
- Sec. 6. State plans.
- Sec. 7. Local educational agency plans.
- Sec. 8. Family engagement in education policy.

- Sec. 9. Prevention and intervention programs for children and youth who are neglected, delinquent, or at risk.
- Sec. 10. High quality teachers and principals.
- Sec. 11. Subpart 16 reference.
- Sec. 12. Family engagement in education programs.
- Sec. 13. Definitions.
- Sec. 14. Conforming amendments.
- Sec. 15. General Accountability Office study and report.
- Sec. 16. Federal coordination of family engagement in education programming.

1 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Family engagement in a child’s education  
4 raises student achievement, improves behavior and  
5 attendance, decreases drop-out rates, and improves  
6 the emotional and physical well-being of children.

7 (2) Families are critical determinants of chil-  
8 dren’s school readiness as well as of students’ deci-  
9 sion to pursue higher education.

10 (3) Effective family engagement is a great  
11 equalizer for students, contributing to their in-  
12 creased academic achievement, regardless of parents’  
13 education level, ethnicity, or socioeconomic back-  
14 ground.

15 (4) Family engagement can raise student aca-  
16 demic achievement so substantially that schools  
17 would need to increase spending by more than  
18 \$1,000 per pupil to gain the same results.

19 (5) Positive benefits for children, youth, fami-  
20 lies, and schools are maximized through effective  
21 family engagement that is—

1 (A) a shared responsibility in which schools  
2 and other community agencies and organiza-  
3 tions are committed to reaching out to engage  
4 families in meaningful ways and families are  
5 committed to actively supporting their chil-  
6 dren’s learning and development;

7 (B) continuous across a child’s life span-  
8 ning from birth to young adulthood; and

9 (C) reinforces learning that takes place in  
10 all settings.

11 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to  
12 strengthen families’ engagement in the education of their  
13 children.

14 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENT REFERENCES.**

15 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
16 this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
17 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
18 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
19 section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-  
20 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

21 **SEC. 5. STATE SUPPORT OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDU-**  
22 **CATION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title I (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.)  
24 is amended by adding after section 1004 the following new  
25 section:

1 **“SEC. 1005. STATE SUPPORT OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN**  
2 **EDUCATION.**

3 “(a) ALLOCATION OF RESERVED FUNDS TO  
4 STATES.—Funds reserved under section 5731(c)(2)(B)  
5 shall be allocated to the States on the basis of the alloca-  
6 tion formula set forth in section 1122.

7 “(b) USES OF FUNDS.—A State shall administer and  
8 expend funds received under subsection (a) to provide  
9 for—

10 “(1) establishment of an Office within the State  
11 educational agency, or staff positions within such  
12 agency, dedicated to family engagement;

13 “(2) development and implementation of state-  
14 wide data collection and evaluation system on family  
15 engagement metrics to identify schools that would  
16 benefit from training and support related to family  
17 engagement;

18 “(3) review of local educational agencies’ family  
19 engagement policies and practices as provided by  
20 sections 1112(e)(3) and 1118(h), and evaluate the  
21 use of funds under this subsection;

22 “(4) award of grants to local educational agen-  
23 cies with schools that would benefit from training  
24 and support related to family engagement;

1           “(5) award of grants to local educational agen-  
2           cies for professional staff development in family en-  
3           gagement in education;

4           “(6) award of grants to Statewide Family En-  
5           gagement Centers operating in the State for tech-  
6           nical assistance and training to State educational  
7           agencies, local educational agencies, schools, commu-  
8           nity-based organizations, or parent organizations;  
9           and

10           “(7) engagement and collaboration with state-  
11           wide services related to early education, higher edu-  
12           cation, child health and welfare, after-school pro-  
13           grams, community service-learning programs, and  
14           other programs to develop coordinated family en-  
15           gagement policies, practices and services.”.

16           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
17           tents for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
18           of 1965 is amended by adding after the item relating to  
19           section 1004 the following:

          “Sec. 1005. State support of family engagement in education.”.

20           **SEC. 6. STATE PLANS.**

21           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1111(d) (20 U.S.C.  
22           6311(d)) is amended to read as follows:

23           “(d) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.—Each State plan shall  
24           include a plan for strengthening family engagement in  
25           education. Each such plan shall at a minimum include—

1           “(1) a description of the criteria and schedule  
2 for review and approval of local educational agency  
3 engagement policies and practices pursuant to sec-  
4 tions 1112(e)(3) and 1118(h);

5           “(2) a description of the system and process for  
6 assessing local educational agency implementation of  
7 section 1118 responsibilities;

8           “(3) a description of the criteria for identifying  
9 local education agencies that would benefit from  
10 training and support related to family engagement;

11           “(4) a description of the State’s statewide sys-  
12 tem of technical assistance and support for local  
13 education agencies and schools on family engage-  
14 ment in education;

15           “(5) an assurance that the State shall refer to  
16 Statewide Family Engagement Centers those local  
17 education agencies that would benefit from training  
18 and support related to family engagement;

19           “(6) a plan for using funds received under sec-  
20 tion 1005;

21           “(7) a description of the relationship between  
22 the State education agency and Statewide Family  
23 Engagement Centers, Parent Training and Informa-  
24 tion Centers, and Community Parent Resource Cen-  
25 ters operating in the State; and

1           “(8) a strategy to establish a Family Engage-  
2           ment Coordinating Council, or if a similar entity ex-  
3           ists, a description of the composition and activities  
4           of such Family Engagement Coordinating Council or  
5           such similar entity.”.

6           (b) REPORTS.—

7           (1) ANNUAL STATE REPORT.—Section  
8           1111(h)(4) (20 U.S.C. 6311(h)(4)) is amended—

9           (A) by striking “and” at the end of the  
10           subparagraph (F);

11           (B) by striking the period at the end of  
12           subparagraph (G) and inserting a semicolon;  
13           and

14           (C) by adding at the end the following:

15           “(H) information on the number of schools  
16           and the name of each school that would benefit  
17           from training and support related to family en-  
18           gagement, the reason why such school was so  
19           identified, and the measures taken to address  
20           the need for training and support; and

21           “(I) information on the State education  
22           agency’s family engagement in education pro-  
23           grams and activities.”.

24           (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1111(j)  
25           (20 U.S.C. 6311(j)) is amended by inserting “advice

1 and assistance in family engagement in education,”  
2 after “reliable,”.

3 **SEC. 7. LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY PLANS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1112(b)(1)(P) (20 U.S.C.  
5 6312(b)(1)(P)) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(P) a description of the strategy the local  
7 educational agency will use to implement and  
8 assess family engagement in education under  
9 section 1118;”.

10 (b) ENGAGEMENT IN DEVELOPING PLANS.—Section  
11 1112(b)(1) (20 U.S.C. 6312(b)(1)) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (Q) as sub-  
13 paragraph (R); and

14 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (P), the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 “(Q) a description of how the local edu-  
17 cational agency will engage families in the de-  
18 velopment, implementation, and assessment of  
19 local educational agency plans; and”.

20 **SEC. 8. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION POLICY.**

21 (a) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY DEVELOPMENT  
22 OF POLICIES AND PRACTICES.—Section 1118 (20 U.S.C.  
23 6318) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (h)  
25 as subsections (b) through (i), respectively;

1           (2) by inserting before subsection (b) (as so re-  
2           designated) the following:

3           “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational agency  
4           and each school receiving funds under this part shall de-  
5           velop family engagement policies and practices that meet  
6           the following principles and standards for family-school  
7           partnerships:

8           “(1) Welcome all families to be active partici-  
9           pants in the life of the school, so that they feel val-  
10          ued, connected to each other, to school staff, and to  
11          what students are learning in class.

12          “(2) Communicate effectively by ensuring reg-  
13          ular two-way, meaningful communication between  
14          family members and local educational agency and  
15          school staff in a manner, language, and mode of  
16          technology that family members can understand and  
17          access.

18          “(3) Support student success by fostering con-  
19          tinuous collaboration between family members and  
20          local educational agency and school staff to support  
21          student learning and healthy development at school  
22          and at home.

23          “(4) Speak up for every child and empower  
24          family members to be advocates for all students  
25          within the school.

1           “(5) Share power and assure that family mem-  
2           bers, local educational agencies, and school staff are  
3           equal partners in family engagement decision-  
4           making.

5           “(6) Collaborate with community and partner  
6           with community organizations and groups to turn  
7           the school into a hub of community life.

8           “(7) Create a continuum of family engagement  
9           in student learning and development from cradle to  
10          career.

11          “(8) Train and support superintendents, prin-  
12          cipals, and teachers to fully engage families in the  
13          education of their children.”.

14          (b) WRITTEN POLICY.—Section 1118(b)(2) (as re-  
15          designated by subsection (a)) is amended—

16                 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “(e)” and  
17                 inserting “(f)”;

18                 (2) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
19                 graph (E);

20                 (3) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
21                 paragraph (F) and inserting a semicolon; and

22                 (4) by adding at the end the following:

23                         “(G) participate in evaluating the effective-  
24                         ness of family engagement strategies and poli-  
25                         cies; and

1           “(H) participate in developing rec-  
2           ommendations for creating a positive school cli-  
3           mate and safe and healthy schools.”.

4           (c) RESERVATION.—Subparagraph (A) of paragraph  
5 1118(b)(3) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational  
8           agency shall reserve not less than 2 percent of  
9           such agency’s allocation under subpart 2 to  
10          carry out this section.”.

11          (d) RESERVED FUNDS.—Paragraph 1118(b)(3) (as  
12 redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended—

13           (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and  
14           (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

15           (2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-  
16          lowing:

17           “(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds reserved  
18           under subparagraph (A) may be used for pur-  
19           poses including—

20                   “(i) increasing capacity through estab-  
21                   lishment of a dedicated office or dedicated  
22                   personnel within the local educational  
23                   agency for family engagement;

24                   “(ii) incentive grants to schools and  
25                   non-profit organizations to support profes-

1 sional development on family engagement  
2 for school staff, parent leadership training,  
3 family literacy programs, home visitation  
4 programs, family volunteerism programs,  
5 and other innovative programs that mean-  
6 ingfully engage families;

7 “(iii) development and implementation  
8 of local educational agency family engage-  
9 ment in education data collection system  
10 and indicators;

11 “(iv) assess and provide recommenda-  
12 tions on school family engagement in edu-  
13 cation policies, practices, and use of funds;

14 “(v) grants to Statewide Family En-  
15 gagement Centers to provide technical as-  
16 sistance and training to schools on imple-  
17 mentation and assessment of family en-  
18 gagement in education policies, practices,  
19 and use of funds;

20 “(vi) incentive grants to schools that  
21 would benefit from training and support  
22 related to family engagement or schools  
23 identified for improvement under section  
24 1116(b) to assist in their implementation  
25 of family engagement consistent with sec-

1 tion 1118, including the hiring and main-  
2 tenance of family engagement coordinators;

3 “(vii) grants to nonprofit organiza-  
4 tions for the establishment of Local Family  
5 Engagement Centers to identify commu-  
6 nity resources, services, and supports and  
7 to remove economic obstacles to family en-  
8 gagement by meeting families’ needs;

9 “(viii) incentive grants to schools and  
10 local nonprofit organizations for early  
11 childhood programs that promote family  
12 engagement and school readiness;

13 “(ix) establishment and support of an  
14 advisory group comprised of families, edu-  
15 cators, and nonprofit organizations to de-  
16 velop recommendations to strengthen fam-  
17 ily engagement along the child and youth  
18 life span and in all learning settings;

19 “(x) grants to schools to develop, im-  
20 plement and assess family engagement  
21 policies, practices, and uses of funds in all  
22 learning settings and across all education  
23 programs; and

24 “(xi) development and implementation  
25 of research and evaluation focused on fam-

1            ily engagement policies, practices, and in-  
2            novation, including implementation, rep-  
3            lication, and impact studies.”.

4            (e) SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY.—The  
5 first sentence of paragraph (1) of subsection 1118(c) (as  
6 redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended by striking  
7 “(c) through (f)” and inserting “(d) through (g)”.

8            (f) POLICY INVOLVEMENT.—Paragraph (5) of sub-  
9 section 1118(d) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is  
10 amended by striking “1114(b)(2)” and inserting  
11 “1114(c)(2)”.

12            (g) SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIGH STUDENT  
13 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.—Section 1118(e) (as redesi-  
14 gnated by subsection (a)) is amended—

15            (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
16 striking “(b)” and inserting “(c)”; and

17            (2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
18 lows:

19            “(1) describe the school’s responsibility to—

20            “(A) provide high-quality curriculum and  
21 instruction in a supportive and effective learn-  
22 ing environment that enables the children  
23 served under this part to meet the State’s stu-  
24 dent academic achievement standards, and the  
25 ways in which each parent will support their

1 children’s learning, such as monitoring attend-  
2 ance and homework completion; volunteering in  
3 their child’s classroom; and participating, as ap-  
4 propriate, in decisions relating to the education  
5 of their children and positive use of extra-  
6 curricular time; and

7 “(B) engage family members in the devel-  
8 opment and recommendations for student at-  
9 tendance, expectations, behavior and school  
10 safety, including the development of reasonable  
11 disciplinary policies for the implementation of  
12 school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and  
13 Supports and the phase-out of out-of-school  
14 suspension and expulsion; and”.

15 **SEC. 9. PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR**  
16 **CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE NE-**  
17 **GLECTED, DELINQUENT, OR AT RISK.**

18 (a) STATE PLAN AND STATE AGENCY APPLICA-  
19 TIONS.—Section 1414 (20 U.S.C. 6434) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

21 (A) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
22 paragraph (B);

23 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
24 subparagraph (D); and

1 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
2 the following:

3 “(C) to prepare an educational services  
4 and transition plan for each child or youth  
5 served by the program, in partnership with  
6 families and aftercare providers; and”;

7 (2) in subsection (c)—

8 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (15)  
9 through (19) as paragraphs (17) through (21);  
10 and

11 (B) by inserting after paragraph (14) the  
12 following:

13 “(15) describes how the State agency will im-  
14 plement family engagement policies and practices  
15 that align with the provisions of section 1118;

16 “(16) provides an assurance that the State  
17 agency will establish for each child or youth served  
18 under this subpart an educational services and tran-  
19 sition plan that is developed in consultation with the  
20 child or youth, family members of the child or youth,  
21 and the local educational agency or alternative edu-  
22 cation program receiving the child or youth following  
23 their period of service under this subpart;”.

24 (b) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY APPLICATIONS.—

25 Section 1423 (20 U.S.C. 6453) is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through  
2           (13) as paragraphs (11) through (15), respectively;  
3           and

4           (2) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-  
5           lowing:

6           “(9) a description of how schools will implement  
7           family engagement policies and practices that align  
8           with the provisions of section 1118;

9           “(10) an assurance that the State agency will  
10          establish for each child or youth served under this  
11          subpart an educational services and transition plan  
12          that is developed in consultation with the child or  
13          youth, family members of the child or youth, and the  
14          local educational agency or alternative education  
15          program receiving the child or youth following their  
16          period of service under this subpart;”.

17          (c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR CORRECTIONAL  
18          FACILITIES RECEIVING FUNDS UNDER THIS SECTION.—

19          Section 1425 (20 U.S.C. 6455) is amended—

20                 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
21                 (10);

22                 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-  
23                 graph (11) and inserting a semicolon; and

24                 (3) by inserting after paragraph (11) the fol-  
25                 lowing:

1           “(12) prepare an educational services and tran-  
2           sition plan for each child or youth served by the pro-  
3           gram, in partnership with families and aftercare pro-  
4           viders, consistent with section 1414(a)(1)(C); and

5           “(13) establish for each child or youth served  
6           an educational services and transition plan that is  
7           developed in consultation with the child or youth,  
8           family members of the child or youth, and the local  
9           educational agency or alternative education program  
10          receiving the child or youth following their period of  
11          service under their subpart.”.

12 **SEC. 10. HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS.**

13          (a) STATE APPLICATION CONTENTS.—Section  
14 2112(b) (20 U.S.C. 6612(b)) is amended by adding at the  
15 end the following:

16           “(13) A description of how the State edu-  
17          cational agency will improve teacher and principal  
18          knowledge and skill in effectively engaging families  
19          in their children’s education.”.

20          (b) STATE ACTIVITIES.—Section 2113(c) (20 U.S.C.  
21 6613(c)) is amended—

22           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (12) through  
23          (18) as paragraphs (13) through (19), respectively;  
24          and

1 (2) by inserting after paragraph (11) the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(12) Training of teachers and principals on  
4 how to effectively engage families in their children’s  
5 education.”.

6 **SEC. 11. SUBPART 16 REFERENCE.**

7 Subpart 16 of part D of title V (20 U.S.C. 7273 et  
8 seq.) is amended to read as follows:

9 **“Subpart 16—Statewide Family Engagement Centers**

10 **“SEC. 5561. REFERENCE TO PART E.**

11 “For provisions relating to Statewide Family En-  
12 gagement Centers, see section 5712.”.

13 **SEC. 12. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

14 (a) **HEADING.**—The heading for title V is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 **“TITLE V—PROMOTING FAMILY**  
17 **ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION**  
18 **AND INNOVATIVE PRO-**  
19 **GRAMS”.**

20 (b) **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.**—Title V (20 U.S.C. 7201  
21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

22 **“PART E—FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION**  
23 **PROGRAMS**

24 **“SEC. 5701. PURPOSES.**

25 “The purposes of this part are the following:



1       “(c) REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY.—Each State Co-  
2     ordinating Council shall report to the Governor of each  
3     State and to the Chief State School Officer the Council’s  
4     findings and recommendations regarding family engage-  
5     ment in education and such other information as the Gov-  
6     ernor may request.

7       “(d) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—The Governor of  
8     the State, in consultation with the State educational agen-  
9     cy, shall determine the number of members to serve on  
10    the Council, their term of office, and appoint such mem-  
11    bers, initially, for a full term or for a period of less than  
12    a full term, as the Governor deems appropriate. Such  
13    members shall include representatives of—

14               “(1) State educational agency programs, State-  
15               wide Family Engagement Centers, and Local Family  
16               Engagement Centers operating in the State;

17               “(2) parent training and information centers  
18               operating in the State, as established by the Indi-  
19               vidual with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
20               1400 et seq.);

21               “(3) community parent resource centers oper-  
22               ating in the State;

23               “(4) the State parent teacher association and  
24               other parent groups;

1           “(5) family members, students, teachers and  
2 school administrators;

3           “(6) the State’s advisory council on early child-  
4 hood education and care;

5           “(7) colleges and universities; and

6           “(8) non-profit organizations and State govern-  
7 mental agencies serving children and families.

8 Not more than 50 percent of such members shall be em-  
9 ployees of a State or local unit of government.

10          “(e) DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.—Duties of the Coun-  
11 cil shall include the following and such other duties as the  
12 Governor may specify:

13           “(1) Establish a statewide vision of family en-  
14 gagement in education that is consistent with, and  
15 leverages federal family engagement in education re-  
16 sources and initiatives.

17           “(2) Assure consistency in family engagement  
18 in education policies and practices across learning  
19 settings along the child and youth life span.

20           “(3) Coordinate Federal, State, and local family  
21 engagement in education programs and activities.

22           “(4) Coordinate family engagement in edu-  
23 cation programs and activities across early child-  
24 hood, school-age, vocational and technical, and high-  
25 er education programs.

1           “(5) Identify opportunities for family engage-  
2           ment in education collaboration and resource sharing  
3           among State educational agencies, local educational  
4           agencies, and organizations that support family-  
5           school partnerships.

6           “(6) Review the family engagement in edu-  
7           cation component of the State educational agency  
8           State Plan prepared under section 1111(d) and sub-  
9           mit to the State educational agency and to the Gov-  
10          ernor, any recommendations of the Council for modi-  
11          fications to the plan.

12          “(7) Visit local educational agencies, schools,  
13          and other learning settings to support quality assur-  
14          ance for family engagement in education policies,  
15          practices, and uses of funds.

16 **“SEC. 5712. STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTERS.**

17          “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are  
18          the following:

19               “(1) To provide statewide leadership, capacity  
20               building, technical assistance, and training to State  
21               and local educational agencies, including personnel  
22               of such agencies, to help the organizations and agen-  
23               cies implement systemic and effective family engage-  
24               ment policies, programs, and activities that lead to  
25               improvements in student academic achievement.

1           “(2) To assist State and local educational agen-  
2           cies in strengthening partnerships among parents  
3           (including parents of children under the age of 6),  
4           teachers, principals, administrators, and other school  
5           personnel in meeting the educational needs of chil-  
6           dren.

7           “(3) To support State and local educational  
8           agencies to develop and strengthen the relationship  
9           between parents and their children’s school in order  
10          to further the development progress of children.

11          “(4) To coordinate activities funded under this  
12          section with family engagement initiatives funded  
13          under section 1118 and other provisions of this Act.

14          “(5) To assist the State educational agency in  
15          the coordination and integration of Federal, State,  
16          and local services and programs.

17          “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

18                 “(1) STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CEN-  
19                 TERS.—The Secretary is authorized to award grants  
20                 in each fiscal year to statewide nonprofit organiza-  
21                 tions (and consortia of such organizations and State  
22                 educational agencies, to establish Statewide Family  
23                 Engagement Centers that provide comprehensive  
24                 training, technical assistance, and capacity building  
25                 to State educational agencies, local educational

1 agencies, schools identified by State and local edu-  
2 cational agencies, and organizations that support  
3 family-school partnerships (such as parent-teacher  
4 associations and Parents as Teachers organizations),  
5 and other organizations that carry out parent edu-  
6 cation and family engagement programs.

7 “(2) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding  
8 grants under this section, the Secretary shall, to the  
9 extent practicable, ensure that a grant is awarded  
10 for a Statewide Family Engagement Center in each  
11 State and territory and shall be an amount of not  
12 less than \$500,000.

13 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—

14 “(1) SUBMISSIONS.—Each statewide nonprofit  
15 organization, or a consortia of such an organization  
16 and a State educational agency that desires a grant  
17 under this section shall submit an application to the  
18 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accom-  
19 panied by such information as the Secretary may re-  
20 quire.

21 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted  
22 under subsection (c)(1), at a minimum, shall include  
23 the following:

24 “(A) A description of the organization or  
25 consortium’s approach to family engagement in

1 education, including the use of strength-based  
2 strategies.

3 “(B) A description of the organization or  
4 consortium’s plan for building a statewide in-  
5 frastructure for family engagement in edu-  
6 cation, to include the following areas:

7 “(i) management capacity and govern-  
8 ance;

9 “(ii) statewide leadership;

10 “(iii) systemic services for family en-  
11 gagement in education;

12 “(iv) capacity building for State edu-  
13 cational agencies, local educational agen-  
14 cies, and schools;

15 “(v) alignment with title I of this Act;  
16 and

17 “(vi) learning and improvement.

18 “(C) A description of the organization’s or  
19 consortium’s experience in providing training,  
20 information, and support to State educational  
21 agencies, local educational agencies, schools,  
22 and nonprofit organizations on family engage-  
23 ment in education policies and practices that  
24 are suited for family members who are severely  
25 disadvantaged educationally or economically or

1 are family members of limited English pro-  
2 ficient children.

3 “(D) Assurances that the organization or  
4 consortium will—

5 “(i) be—

6 “(I) governed by a board of di-  
7 rectors the membership of which in-  
8 cludes parents; or

9 “(II) be an organization or con-  
10 sortium that represents the interests  
11 of parents;

12 “(ii) establish a special advisory com-  
13 mittee the membership of which includes—

14 “(I) parents of children from  
15 birth through young adulthood, who  
16 shall constitute a majority of the  
17 members of the special advisory com-  
18 mittee;

19 “(II) representatives of the State  
20 parent teacher association;

21 “(III) representatives of edu-  
22 cation professionals with expertise in  
23 improving services for disadvantaged  
24 children;

1                   “(IV) representatives of local ele-  
2                   mentary and secondary schools, in-  
3                   cluding students and representatives  
4                   from local youth organizations; and

5                   “(V) representatives of State  
6                   educational agencies and local edu-  
7                   cational agencies;

8                   “(iii) use at least 65 percent of the  
9                   funds received under this subpart in each  
10                  fiscal year to serve local educational agen-  
11                  cies, schools, and community-based organi-  
12                  zations that serve high concentrations of  
13                  low-income families, in order to serve par-  
14                  ents who are severely educationally or eco-  
15                  nomically disadvantaged or are parents of  
16                  minority and limited English proficient  
17                  children;

18                  “(iv) operate a center of sufficient  
19                  size, scope, and quality to ensure that the  
20                  center is adequate to serve the State edu-  
21                  cational agencies, local educational agen-  
22                  cies, and community-based organizations;

23                  “(v) serve urban, suburban, and rural  
24                  local educational agencies and schools;

25                  “(vi) network with—

1                   “(I) State and local educational  
2 agencies and schools;

3                   “(II) Statewide Family Engage-  
4 ment Centers assisted under this sec-  
5 tion;

6                   “(III) parent training and infor-  
7 mation centers assisted under section  
8 682 of the Individuals with Disabil-  
9 ities Education Act;

10                  “(IV) clearinghouses; and

11                  “(V) other organizations and  
12 agencies;

13                  “(vii) use at least 30 percent of the  
14 funds received under this section in each  
15 fiscal year to establish, expand, or provide  
16 technical assistance to scientifically based  
17 early childhood parent education programs;

18                  “(viii) provide assistance to State and  
19 local educational agencies and community-  
20 based organizations that support family  
21 members in areas such as understanding  
22 State and local standards and measures of  
23 student and school academic achievement  
24 and strategies for supporting school aca-  
25 demic achievement; and

1                   “(ix) work with State educational  
2                   agencies, local educational agencies, and  
3                   schools to determine parental needs and  
4                   the best means for delivery of services.

5           “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—

6                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—Grant funds received under  
7                   this section shall be used to provide training, tech-  
8                   nical assistance, and capacity building to State edu-  
9                   cational agencies, local educational agencies and or-  
10                  ganizations that support family-school partnerships  
11                  to enable them—

12                   “(A) to assist parents in participating ef-  
13                   fectively in their children’s education and to  
14                   help their children meet State and local stand-  
15                   ards, such as assisting parents—

16                   “(i) engage in activities that will im-  
17                   prove student academic achievement, in-  
18                   cluding understanding how they can sup-  
19                   port learning in the classroom with activi-  
20                   ties at home, in afterschool and extra-  
21                   curricular programs;

22                   “(ii) to communicate effectively with  
23                   teachers, principals, counselors, adminis-  
24                   trators, and other school personnel;

1           “(iii) to become active participants in  
2           the development, implementation, and re-  
3           view of school-parent compacts, family en-  
4           gagement policies, and school planning and  
5           improvement;

6           “(iv) to participate in the design and  
7           provision of assistance to students who are  
8           not making adequate academic progress;

9           “(v) to participate in State and local  
10          decisionmaking;

11          “(vi) to train other parents;

12          “(vii) to help the parents learn and  
13          use technology applied in their children’s  
14          education;

15          “(B) to develop and implement, in partner-  
16          ship with the State Education Agency, a state-  
17          wide family engagement policy and systemic ini-  
18          tiatives that will provide for a continuum of  
19          services to remove barriers for family engage-  
20          ment in education and support school reform  
21          efforts; and

22          “(C) to develop, implement, and assess  
23          family engagement in education policies and  
24          plans under section 1112 and 1118.

25          “(e) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—

1           “(1) MATCHING FUNDS FOR GRANT RE-  
2           NEWAL.—For each fiscal year after the first fiscal  
3           year in which an organization or consortium receives  
4           assistance under this section, the organization or  
5           consortium shall demonstrate in the application sub-  
6           mitted for such fiscal year, that a portion of the  
7           services provided by the organization or consortium  
8           is supported through non-Federal contributions,  
9           which contributions may be in cash or in-kind.

10           “(2) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—

11           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each organization or  
12           consortium receiving assistance under this sec-  
13           tion shall submit to the Secretary, on an annual  
14           basis, information concerning family centers as-  
15           sisted under this section, including the following  
16           information:

17                   “(i) The number of State and local  
18                   educational agency personnel, local edu-  
19                   cation agencies, schools, and community-  
20                   based organizations, that receive training.

21                   “(ii) The types and modes of training,  
22                   technical assistance, and capacity building  
23                   provided under this section.

24                   “(iii) Summative information on the  
25                   activities taken by the organization or con-

1 consortium to improve statewide capacity  
2 building for effective family engagement in  
3 the areas of—

4 “(I) management capacity and  
5 governance;

6 “(II) statewide leadership;

7 “(III) systemic services for fam-  
8 ily engagement in education;

9 “(IV) capacity-building for State  
10 educational agencies, local educational  
11 agencies, and schools;

12 “(V) alignment with title I of this  
13 Act;

14 “(VI) learning and improvement.

15 “(B) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary  
16 shall disseminate annually to the Congress and  
17 to the public the information that each organi-  
18 zation or consortium submits under subpara-  
19 graph (A).

20 “(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary  
21 shall provide technical assistance, by grant or con-  
22 tract, for the establishment, development, and co-  
23 ordination of Statewide Family Engagement Cen-  
24 ters, including their establishment of statewide infra-  
25 structures for family engagement in education.

1           “(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
2 this section shall be construed to prohibit a parental  
3 information and resource center from—

4           “(A) having its employees or agents meet  
5 with a parent at a site that is not on school  
6 grounds; or

7           “(B) working with another agency that  
8 serves children.

9           “(5) PARENTAL RIGHTS.—Notwithstanding any  
10 other provision of this section—

11           “(A) no person (including a parent who  
12 educates a child at home, a public school par-  
13 ent, or a private school parent) shall be re-  
14 quired to participate in any program of parent  
15 education or developmental screening under this  
16 section; and

17           “(B) no program or center assisted under  
18 this section shall take any action that infringes  
19 in any manner on the right of a parent to direct  
20 the education of their children.

21           **“Subpart 2—Local Family Engagement Centers**

22           **“SEC. 5721. DEMONSTRATION.**

23           “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to  
24 demonstrate Local Family Engagement Centers and to  
25 evaluate the usefulness and effectiveness of innovative ap-

1 proaches demonstrated by these centers in engaging fami-  
2 lies in their children’s education by providing training,  
3 services, supports, and opportunities that meet families  
4 needs and remove barriers to their engagement in their  
5 children’s education to improve student achievement.

6 “(b) GRANT.—Of the amount made available to carry  
7 out this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary is author-  
8 ized to award 90 percent of such amount as grants to,  
9 and enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with,  
10 local nonprofit parent organizations to develop concepts  
11 for Local Family Engagement Centers, Create such a cen-  
12 ter and demonstrate the center for such period of time  
13 as the Secretary shall prescribe.

14 “(c) LOCAL NONPROFIT PARENT ORGANIZATION DE-  
15 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘local nonprofit parent  
16 organization’ means a private nonprofit organization  
17 (other than an institution of higher education) that—

18 “(1) has a demonstrated record of working with  
19 low-income parents and families;

20 “(2)(A) has a board of directors, the majority  
21 of whom are parents of students in elementary  
22 schools and secondary schools assisted under part A  
23 of title I and located in the geographic area to be  
24 served by a Local Family Engagement Center; or

1           “(B) has a special governing committee to di-  
2           rect and implement a Local Family Engagement  
3           Center, a majority of the members of whom are par-  
4           ents of students in schools assisted under part A of  
5           title I; and

6           “(3) is located in a community with elementary  
7           schools and secondary schools that receive funds  
8           under part A of title I, and is accessible to the fami-  
9           lies of students in those schools.

10          “(d) APPLICATION FOR GRANTS.—Not later than 12  
11         months after the date of the enactment of this section,  
12         the Secretary shall publish an application for demonstra-  
13         tion grants under this section. Such application shall in-  
14         clude—

15                 “(1) a description of the organization’s ap-  
16                 proach on family engagement in education, including  
17                 its use of strength-based strategies;

18                 “(2) information that the applicant meets the  
19                 definition of a local nonprofit parent organization;

20                 “(3) information that the applicant has the ca-  
21                 pacity to structure a center capable of conducting  
22                 the training, information and support activities to  
23                 fulfill the purposes of a Local Family Engagement  
24                 Center;

1           “(4) information that the applicant will struc-  
2           ture and operate a center of sufficient scope and  
3           quality adequate to serve the needs of the local area  
4           in which it is located;

5           “(5) a description of the organization’s experi-  
6           ence in providing training, services, and supports to  
7           low-income parents and families and family members  
8           of minority and limited English proficient children;

9           “(6) a description of what steps the organiza-  
10          tion has taken to meet with local educational agency  
11          or school personnel in the geographic area to be  
12          served by the center in order to inform the personnel  
13          of the plan and application for assistance;

14          “(7) a description of how the organization will  
15          coordinate its efforts with the Statewide Family En-  
16          gagement Centers in the State;

17          “(8) information that the applicant is capable  
18          of meeting such milestones or the timeline in the  
19          demonstration as the Secretary may prescribe; and

20          “(9) such other information as the Secretary  
21          deems necessary.

22          “(e) FUNDS FOR EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall  
23          reserve 10 percent of the amount made available to carry  
24          out this section to fund the demonstrations conducted  
25          under this section for the purpose of evaluating such dem-

1 onstrations and issuing a report describing the approaches  
2 and aspects of the demonstration that the Secretary deter-  
3 mines to be most effective and appropriate for fulfilling  
4 the purposes of family engagement centers, taking into ac-  
5 count the demographics of the various localities to be  
6 served.

7 **“Subpart 3—Funding**

8 **“SEC. 5731. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; RES-**  
9 **ERVATIONS.**

10 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 are authorized to be appropriated \$195,000,000 for fiscal  
12 year 2011 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal  
13 years 2012 through 2015 to carry out this part and sec-  
14 tion 1005.

15 “(b) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—From the  
16 amounts made available for each fiscal year under sub-  
17 section (a), the Secretary shall—

18 “(1) reserve the greater of \$40,000,000 or 44  
19 percent for Statewide Family Engagement Centers,  
20 of which not more than 5 percent may be used for  
21 technical assistance to, and evaluation of, such cen-  
22 ters; and

23 “(2) from the remainder—

24 “(A) reserve 2.9 percent, to be divided  
25 equally among the States and territories, to

1 fund operations of State Family Engagement  
2 Coordinating Councils;

3 “(B) reserve 38 percent for State support  
4 of family engagement activities conducted pur-  
5 suant to title I of this Act;

6 “(C) reserve 8 percent for demonstration  
7 of Local Family Engagement Centers;

8 “(D) reserve 5.1 percent for a Director  
9 and dedicated staff for family and community  
10 engagement within the Office of Elementary  
11 and Secondary Education and related oper-  
12 ations; and

13 “(E) reserve 2 percent for Local Family  
14 Engagement Centers at schools administered by  
15 the Bureau of Indian Education in the Depart-  
16 ment of the Interior and at Tribally Controlled  
17 Schools, except that the Secretary of Interior  
18 shall use an amount not to exceed 5 percent of  
19 such reserved funds for creation of a national  
20 Indian Family Engagement Coordinating Coun-  
21 cil modeled on State Family Coordinating  
22 Councils as described in this part.

1     **“Subpart 4—Research-Based Metrics for Effective**  
2                     **Family Engagement in Education**

3     **“SEC. 5741. RULES OF THE SECRETARY.**

4             “(a) DEVELOPMENT OF METRICS FOR FAMILY EN-  
5 GAGEMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the  
6 enactment of this section, the Secretary, after consultation  
7 with the Advisory Committee, shall issue rules that specify  
8 metrics on family engagement in education for State edu-  
9 cational agencies, local educational agencies, schools, and  
10 nonprofit organizations that receive funds under subpart  
11 3 or section 1005.

12            “(b) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall  
13 appoint a committee including researchers and representa-  
14 tives from national nonprofit organizations with expertise  
15 in family engagement in education to make data-driven  
16 recommendations regarding metrics required under sub-  
17 section (a).

18            “(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF METRICS.—The Secretary  
19 shall require States and local educational agencies to in-  
20 clude the metrics specified in subsection (a) in their an-  
21 nual State report beginning for submissions in the year  
22 that the Secretary deems to be practicable.”.

23     **SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.**

24             Section 9101 (20 U.S.C. 7801) is amended—

25                 (1) by amending paragraph (32) to read as fol-  
26             lows:

1           “(32) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION.—  
2           The term ‘family engagement in education’ means a  
3           shared responsibility of families and schools for stu-  
4           dent success, in which schools and community-based  
5           organizations are committed to reaching out to en-  
6           gage families in meaningful ways and families are  
7           committed to actively supporting their children’s  
8           learning and development. This shared responsibility  
9           is continuous from birth through young adulthood  
10          and reinforces learning that takes place in the home,  
11          school and community.”; and

12           (2) by adding at the end the following:

13           “(44) TRIBALLY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS.—The  
14          term ‘tribally controlled schools’ shall mean schools  
15          administered by Indian tribes or their delegates pur-  
16          suant to the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
17          cation Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450 et  
18          seq.).”.

19 **SEC. 14. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

20          The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
21 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by striking—

22           (1) “parental involvement” and “parent involve-  
23          ment” each place they appears and inserting “family  
24          engagement”;

1           (2) “involvement of parents” each place it ap-  
2           pears and inserting “engagement of families”;

3           (3) “parental information and resource center”  
4           each place it appears and inserting “Statewide Fam-  
5           ily Engagement Center”; and

6           (4) “involve parents” each place it appears and  
7           inserting “engage families”.

8 **SEC. 15. GENERAL ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY AND**  
9           **REPORT.**

10          (a) STUDY.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of  
12           the United States shall conduct a study, and make  
13           findings and recommendations relating to compli-  
14           ance with, and use of funds made available for, sec-  
15           tion 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
16           cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6318), including mat-  
17           ters specified in paragraph (2).

18           (2) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall include a re-  
19           view and analysis of—

20           (A) the use of funds reserved by local edu-  
21           cation agencies for family engagement under  
22           such section 1118;

23           (B) the innovative, effective, replicable, or  
24           model family engagement in education policies,  
25           practices and uses of funds of State educational

1 agencies and local educational agencies deter-  
2 mined by the Secretary of Education to be in  
3 alignment with section 1118;

4 (C) any barriers to State educational agen-  
5 cies and local educational agencies in imple-  
6 menting section 1118;

7 (D) any barriers to Indian tribes and orga-  
8 nizations, Native Hawaiian organizations, and  
9 Alaska Native organizations in developing, im-  
10 plementing, and assessing family engagement in  
11 education policies and practices; and

12 (E) the use of data collection and report-  
13 ing and outcome and assessment systems of  
14 State educational agencies and local educational  
15 agencies to determine the extent to which fam-  
16 ily engagement in education is implemented as  
17 outlined in section 1118.

18 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall  
20 prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and  
21 Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee  
22 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate  
23 a report containing the findings and recommendations re-  
24 sulting from the study.

1 **SEC. 16. FEDERAL COORDINATION OF FAMILY ENGAGE-**  
2 **MENT IN EDUCATION PROGRAMMING.**

3 (a) STAFFING.—Not later than 6 months after date  
4 of enactment of this Act, there shall be established in the  
5 Department of Education dedicated staff, including a Di-  
6 rector, for family and community engagement within the  
7 Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

8 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Director shall include  
9 the following:

10 (1) Articulating a national vision of family en-  
11 gagement in education.

12 (2) Coordinating and integrating activities re-  
13 lated to family engagement strategies, services, and  
14 programs within the Department and across Federal  
15 agencies.

16 (3) Providing guidance to Department offices  
17 and units on the administration of family engage-  
18 ment in education programs and activities and com-  
19 munity schools programs and activities.

20 (4) Assuring consistency in family engagement  
21 in education policies and programs department.

22 (5) Assuring consistency in family engagement  
23 in education policies and programs with family en-  
24 gagement policies and practices of the programs and  
25 activities of other Federal agencies.

1           (6) Administering the Statewide Family En-  
2           gagement Centers under section 5712 of the Ele-  
3           mentary and Secondary Education Act, the Local  
4           Family Engagement Centers program under section  
5           5721 of such Act and the Full Service Community  
6           Schools program.

7           (7) Developing, in consultation with the public  
8           through an invitation for public comment in the  
9           Federal Register, a plan for innovation, research and  
10          evaluation of family engagement in education, in-  
11          cluding impact, implementation, and replication  
12          studies.

13          (8) Conducting, by arrangement with the De-  
14          partment's Institute of Educational Sciences, by  
15          contract, or by competition, innovation, research and  
16          evaluation on family engagement in education con-  
17          sistent with the duty under paragraph (6).

18          (9) Disseminating effective and innovative prac-  
19          tices on family engagement to State educational  
20          agencies, Statewide Family Engagement Centers,  
21          parent training and information centers, title I ad-  
22          ministrators, and others.

23          (10) Coordinating innovation, research, training  
24          and technical assistance activities between Statewide

1 Family Engagement Centers and regional edu-  
2 cational laboratories.

3 (11) Identifying opportunities for family en-  
4 gagement in education collaboration and resource  
5 sharing among State educational agencies, local edu-  
6 cational agencies, and organizations that support  
7 family-school partnerships.

8 (12) Preparing a biennial report to the Con-  
9 gress on family engagement in education, including  
10 a summary of activities, performance and outcomes  
11 under sections 1005, 1112, 1118, 5711, 5712, and  
12 5721 of the Elementary and Secondary Education  
13 Act.

14 (13) Publishing State educational agency family  
15 engagement in education plans and reports prepared  
16 as required by section 1111 of the Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education Act on the web site of the De-  
18 partment.

19 (14) Carrying out such other duties as may be  
20 designated by the Secretary.

21 (c) FEDERAL DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY COOPERA-  
22 TION.—Each department or agency of the Federal Gov-  
23 ernment providing programs related to family and commu-  
24 nity engagement component shall—

1           (1) cooperate with the efforts of the Director  
2 under this section;

3           (2) provide such assistance, statistics, studies,  
4 reports, information, and advice as the Director may  
5 request, to the extent permitted by law;

6           (3) adjust department or agency staff job de-  
7 scriptions to support collaboration and implementa-  
8 tion of the vision and strategy; and

9           (4) assign department or agency liaisons to the  
10 office to oversee and implement interagency coordi-  
11 nation.

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