

Title I Parental Involvement

- I. The Board recognizes that parent involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in District programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among school, parents and community. The Board expects that its schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with the statutory definition of parental involvement. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that parents:
 - A. Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - B. Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
 - C. 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.

- II. The Board of Directors adopts as part of this policy the following guidance for parent involvement. The District shall:
 - A. Put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its Title I schools consistent with federal laws including the development and evaluation of policy. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children;
 - B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in the planning and implementing of effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
 - C. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement;
 - D. Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction, Preschool Youngsters, State-run preschools;
 - E. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served with Title I funds including: identifying barriers to greater participation of parents in Title I-related activities, with particular attention to participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children; and
 - F. Involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent.

Legal References: PL 107-110, Section 1118(a)

Management Resources: *Policy News*, August 2003 No Child Left Behind Update
Policy News, June 2005 Title I Parental Involvement Policy
Policy News, October 2008 Family Involvement Policy

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Revised: 10/8/07; 12/10/08

Title 1 Parent Involvement

- I. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the District's Title 1 Parent Involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.
 - A. The District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan:
 1. An annual meeting of parents of participating Title 1 students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title 1 program. The meeting will be held in the Fall trimester of each year. All parents of students who participate in the Title I program will be invited. The meeting will be set up and scheduled by the Title I Data Coordinator.
 2. Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the development, operation and evaluation of the program. A Title I Part A family night will be conducted in the Fall trimester of each year. During that night, parents' options to participate will be explained.
 3. Parents will be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. A Title I Part A Advisory Board, with representation from each building, will meet in January of each year.
 - B. The District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
 1. Parents will be given the opportunity to review the school improvement plan during the Fall conference time. Parent feedback will be collected during the Fall conference through a parent survey.
 2. Parents will be encouraged to participate in the building self-review. Quarterly Title I Part A newsletters and announcements in the building newsletters will notify parents of these opportunities.
 - C. The District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities:
 1. Identify barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities;
 2. Use findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement; and
 3. Revise, when necessary, the District and school parent involvement policies.
 - D. The District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with similar strategies under the following other programs, such as:
 - Learning Assistance Program;
 - Special Education; and
 - State-operated preschool programs.The District shall facilitate removing barriers to parental involvement by activities such as:
 1. Conducting joint parent meetings with other programs;
 2. Holding meetings at various times of the day and evening;
 3. Arranging for in-home conferences;
 4. Offer STARS credits for Kindergarten parents, local preschools and child care providers by introducing the West Valley School District Reading Curriculum.
 5. Title 1 funds may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings by payment of transportation and child care costs.
 - E. The district will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy through a survey.
 - F. The District will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement through the following:
 1. The School District will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide information to parents of children served by the School District or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The State's essential academic learning requirements,
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - How to monitor their child's progress, and

- How to work with educators.

Information will be delivered to parents through additions to school newsletters, quarterly Title I Part A newsletters and by participation of the Title I Part A staff in fall and spring student conferences. In addition, parents will be provided with their student's Learning Plan.

2. The School District will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, by:
 - a. Giving guidance as to how parents can assist at home in the education of their child;
 - b. Holding parent meetings at various times of the day and evening to provide parents:
 - Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
 - Opportunities to submit parent comments about the program to the District.
 - Opportunities to meet with the classroom and Title 1, Part A teachers to discuss their children's progress.

G. School District personnel will work with teachers, principals and other staff, to reach out to, communicate with, and engage parents as equal partners. The District will provide:

1. An explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program;
2. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum;
3. Information in the academic assessment used to measure student progress;
4. Information on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and

Information will be delivered to parents through additions to school newsletters, the quarterly Title I Part A newsletter, and by participation of the Title I Part A staff in fall and spring student conferences. In addition, the parents of each student enrolled in the Title I Part A program will receive an annual update letter explaining the items indicated above.

H. The School District will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

1. Distribute the Title 1 Family Involvement policy on an annual basis to the parents of each student with the letter indicating the basis for that student's participation in the Title I Part A program and in school newsletters, and
2. To the extent needed and practicable, distribute the Title 1 Family Involvement policy in multiple languages or formats.

II. School-Based Parent Involvement Policy

A. In addition to the District-wide policy on family involvement, each school offering Title I, Part A services will have a separate school building parent involvement policy.

The building-level Title I, Part A parent involvement policy will meet the following requirements:

- a. Each building in the District receiving Title 1, Part A funds shall jointly develop with and distribute to parents of students served in the program a written building-level policy, agreed upon by parents of Title I served students;
- b. The policy will outline how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for student achievement in meeting academic standards;
- c. Parents will be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and parents and students will sign a school compact;
- d. To the extent practicable, the policy will be provided in a language the parents can understand; and
- e. The policy will be evaluated with parents annually.