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| Book | Policy Manual |
| Section | 900 Community |
| Title | Title I Parental Involvement |
| Number | 918 |
| Status | Active |
| Adopted | June 18, 2007 |
| Last Revised | February 16, 2017 |

Purpose

The Board recognizes that parental involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents/guardians and community.

Authority

In compliance with federal law, the district and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy. The district will: [1]

1. Provide parents/guardians with the opportunity in the joint development of the districts overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement through participation at annual meetings.
2. Involve parents/guardians in the process of school review and improvement by completing annual surveys and discussions at the annual Title I meeting.
3. Builds the schools' and parents'/guardians' capacity for parental involvement by providing opportunities to participate in activities and professional development opportunities throughout the school year, which are organized by PAFPC, SPAC, the district administrators, and the Washington County Federal Program Coordinator group.
4. Coordinate Title I parental involvement activities with other local groups and organizations such as Head Start, The Frank Sarris Public Library, and the Washington County Federal Program Coordinator group. There is a yearly meeting to talk about transition with Head Start, a yearly meeting involving the library to discuss and offer summer reading/learning opportunities, and a training yearly through WCFPC that Title I parents/guardians are given the opportunity to participate in.
5. Involve parents/guardians in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I through a written survey and discussion at the annual Title I meeting.
6. Uses the findings of the yearly Title I parent/guardian survey to make improvements and plan activities for the following school year. This includes professional development for teachers and

activities for our annual meeting.

7. Identify barriers to participation by parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority. Translation services will be offered to any family in need of this service. Staff will reach out to families in multiple modalities to reach as many as possible.

The Board shall adopt and distribute the parental involvement policy, which shall be incorporated into the district's Title I plan and shall be evaluated annually, with parental involvement at the annual meeting in the beginning of the school year. This plan will also be posted on the district website.[1]

Guidelines

An annual meeting of parents/guardians of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. Parents/Guardians shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Parents/Guardians shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.[1]

In addition to the required annual meeting, additional parent/guardian meetings shall be held at various times of the day and evening. At these meetings, parents/guardians shall be provided:[1]

1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
2. Description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children through interactions with the classroom teacher, Title I teacher, and district administration.
4. Opportunities to submit parent/guardian comments about the program to the district level.

If sufficient, Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent/guardian attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and child care costs associated with parent/guardian participation.

Opportunities shall be provided for parents/guardians to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child's progress.

Parents/Guardians may be given guidance as to how they can assist at home in the education of their child and will be provided with necessary materials to provide that assistance. In addition parents/guardians will be provided with access to district curricula and to the state and local standards and anchors upon which children will be assessed.

School-Parental Compact

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents/guardians of students served in the program a School-Parental Compact outlining the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff and students share responsibility for improved student achievement in meeting academic standards. The compact shall:[2]

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in the Title I program to meet the district's academic standards.
2. Indicate the ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, review of all school communications, attend school functions; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related

to their child's education.

3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents/ guardians, and reasonable access to staff.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I parental involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

1. Explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
2. Set of objectives to be addressed.
3. Description of the services to be provided.
4. Strategies to use at home to increase student achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that information and reports provided to parents/guardians are in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand.[1][3]

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| Legal | <u>1. 20 U.S.C. 6318</u> |
| | 2. Pol. 102 |
| | 3. Pol. 138 |
| | <u>22 PA Code 403.1</u> |