

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

The Board believes that parent/guardian involvement is an important part of the educational program. Therefore, all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the District are encouraged to take an active role in the education of their children. In order to ensure that this policy is followed, the Board directs the Superintendent to:

- A. Encourage strong home-school partnerships;
- B. Provide for consistent and effective communication between the parents/guardians and school officials;
- C. Offer parents/guardians ways to assist and encourage their children to do their best;
- D. Offer ways parents/guardians can support classroom learning activities;
- E. Provide opportunities for parents/guardians to be involved in the parental involvement program; and
- F. Encourage parents to express ideas, concerns, and judgments about the schools through such means as (1) written suggestion(s) or proposal(s); (2) presentations at hearings; (3) responses to surveys made through interviews, written instruments, or other means; (4) comments at meetings of the Board; and (5) service on citizens' advisory committees.

Parent volunteers in the schools are also encouraged under the direction of the building principal.

PARENT PARTICIPATION IN TITLE I PROGRAMS

In accordance with the requirements of Federal law, programs supported by Title I funds must be planned and implemented in meaningful consultation with parents of the students being served.

The Board encourages the involvement of all parents in their child's education. However, this policy is a broad directive to the Superintendent, other Administrators, and parents of the goals to be obtained in establishing a parental involvement policy for parents whose students are covered by Title I programs. The Board also encourages the participation of parents in the creation of the policy necessary to make the goals established herein a reality. Parental involvement policies already exist for parents of students not covered by Title I programs.

Each year, the Superintendent shall work with parents of children served in Title I Programs in order to jointly develop and agree upon a proposed written parent involvement policy to establish expectations for the involvement of such parents in the education of their children. The proposed policy shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Education and distributed to parents of children receiving Title I services. The proposed policy must describe how the district will:

- A. Involve parents in the development of the district's Title I plans and in the process of school review and improvement, if necessary;
- B. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance;
- C. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement;
- D. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents and Teachers, and Home Instruction for Preschool Youngsters;
- E. In consultation with parents, annually evaluate the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic quality of schools, including:
 - 1. Identifying barriers to greater parent participation;
 - 2. Designing strategies for more effective parental involvement; and,
 - 3. Revising the parental involvement policy if necessary.

- F. Involve parents of children receiving Title I services in deciding how Title I funds reserved for parent involvement activities will be allocated;
- G. Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format, and to the extent practicable in a language, such parents can understand;
- H. Conduct meetings with parents including provisions for flexible scheduling and assistance to parents to better assure their attendance at meetings;
- I. Develop agendas for parent meetings to include review and explanation of the curriculum, means of assessments, and the proficiency levels students are expected to achieve and maintain;
- J. Provide opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions, interact and share experiences with other parents, and participate appropriately in the decision-making about the program and revisions in the plan;
- K. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program;
- L. Communicate information concerning school performance profiles and their child's individual performance to parents;
- M. Assist parents in helping their children in achieving the objectives of the program by such means as ensuring regular attendance, monitoring television-watching, providing adequate time and the proper environment for homework; guiding nutritional and health practices, and the like;
- N. Provide timely responses to parental questions, concerns, and recommendations;
- O. Coordinate and provide technical assistance and other support necessary to assist Title I schools to develop effective parent participation activities to improve academic achievement;
- P. Conduct other activities as appropriate to the Title I plan and state and federal requirements.

The Superintendent must also assure that each Title I participating school develops a specific written plan, with parental involvement and agreement, in accordance with federal law.

The Superintendent and building principals must include provisions in the district and school parent involvement policies that involve parents in the education of their children and that support a partnership among the school, parents and the community for improving students' achievement in accordance with federal law.

Adopted: September 30, 2003