

Book

Policy Manual

Section

900 Community

Title

Title I Family Engagement

Code

918

Status

Active

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2. Pol. 102

3. Pol. 138

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# **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. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will: [1]

- 1. Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of the district's overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement.
- 2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- 3. Develop activities that promote the schools' and parents'/guardians' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- 4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with appropriate programs, as provided by law.
- 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.
- 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.

- 7. Use findings of annual evaluations to design strategies for more effective parental involvement.
- 8. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served under Title I.

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.[1]

# 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.

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

## 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.
- 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.

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.

## 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, and television watching; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time.
- 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.