



TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The Board recognizes that parent and family member involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. To promote parent and family engagement, the District and each school offering Title I services will implement its own written parent and family engagement plan in accordance with the requirements of Title I and with this policy. The superintendent or designee will ensure that all parent and family engagement plans comply with this policy and with the requirements of federal law.

Vision for Meaningful Involvement

It is the responsibility of the District and of each school to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment and to enable students receiving Title I services to meet the District's academic standards. Students master academic skills and develop civic responsibility because of family, school, and community support enhanced by school partnerships with parents, families, and community organizations that enable parents and family members to:

- Understand their children's school experience;
- Participate as volunteers in school;
- Support student learning at home;
- Develop effective parenting skills;
- Participate in important decisions affecting their children; and
- Rely on community resources to support their parenting efforts.

District-Wide Engagement Plan

The superintendent or designee will work jointly with parents and family members of students participating in Title I programs to develop and agree upon a District-wide parent and family engagement plan. The parent and family engagement plan will be incorporated into the District's Title I plan and must ensure that:

- Parents and family members are involved in the joint development of the District's overall Title I plan and the process of developing school improvement plans.
- The District provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

- School and District strategies for parent and family engagement under Title I are coordinated and integrated with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs, including public preschool programs.
- Parents and family members are involved in the activities of schools served under Title I as well as in decisions regarding how the District's Title I funds reserved for parental involvement activities are to be allocated.
- Assistance is provided to parents and family members as appropriate in understanding such topics as State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Materials and training are provided to help parents to work with their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology as appropriate to foster parental involvement.
- Other activities are conducted by the District and schools as necessary to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Reasonable support for parental involvement activities is adequately provided to parents and that, to the extent practicable, information related to school and parent programs and activities is provided to parents in a language the parents can understand.

School-Wide Engagement Plans

Financial and staff resources will be allocated by the District to schools offering Title I services in order to assist and support the implementation of individual school plans. Each school offering Title I services will work jointly with parents and family members of Title I students to develop and agree upon school-wide parent and family engagement procedures that are consistent with the District-wide engagement plan. Each school's Title I procedures will be made available to the local community, will be updated periodically to meet changing needs, and will describe how the school will:

- Use multiple techniques that assure (a) all parents understand their children's school experience and (b) the school staff understands parent and community expectations for the school.
- Help school staff work with parent and community volunteers in the school in ways that are beneficial to students and that strengthen school and community relations.
- Ensure that families receive information about how to support their children's learning at home and that families will have access to someone to advise them when they encounter difficulty. (Fully implement Family Friendly Schools Initiatives).
- Refer parents to resources for assistance in developing their parenting skills or obtaining advice on family financial, health, or welfare issues. Maintain connections with community resources and agencies to assure current information and continuous cooperation.
- Ensure that the school board reviews and approves each school's student learning plan. All parents have the opportunity to review and advise on their students' learning experiences.
- Establish collaborations and exchanges with businesses and agencies in the community to broaden the learning opportunities for students and expand options for teachers.
- Convene an annual meeting to explain the goals and purposes of the Title 1 school-wide plan. Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation, and

evaluation of the school-wide plan. Parents will also be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.

- Hold a flexible number of meetings for parents of Title I students at various times of the day or evening, in addition to the annual meeting. If sufficient, Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of reasonable transportation and child care costs. Additionally, at these meetings, parents will be provided:
 1. Information about programs provided within the school wide plan.
 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 comments about the program to the District level.
- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs and policies.
- Provide parents of Title I Students with timely information about the school's Title I services, including:
 1. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards;
 2. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions; to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and to respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and
 3. Information regarding the parent's ability to submit comments regarding the school's Title I procedure or plan if it is not satisfactory to the parent of a Title I student.

Evaluation of Engagement Plans

Parents and family members are involved in polling and surveys conducted by the District, including at least one annual evaluation, of the content and effectiveness of parent and family engagement plans in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I. Such evaluations will be used to:

- Design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent and family involvement;
- Identify barriers to participation by parents, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority;
- Identify the needs of parents and family members to assist with their children's learning;
- Identify strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- Understand public expectations for the schools; and
- Explain and obtain feedback on the school's work in strengthening the ability of parents and family members to support student academic and civic development.

Staff Engagement

All teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, school leaders, and other staff will receive training and education regarding parent and family engagement, including:

- Education regarding the value and utility of contributions of parents and how to reach out to, communicate, and work with parents as equal partners;
- Education regarding how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the school;
- In-service training to enable teachers and administrators to perfect their skills in working with parents and families as partners in students' learning.

In addition, when hiring and promoting personnel, consideration will be given to experience and performance in developing effective parent, family, and community partnerships.

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Legal References:
20 U.S.C. 1118