

6172.4

Instruction

Title 1 Parent Involvement

The Board of Education endorses the parent involvement goals of Title 1 and encourages the regular participation by parents of Title 1 eligible children in all aspects of the program. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school and community. In this policy, the word "parent" also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child's schooling.

Pursuant to federal law, the District will jointly develop with parents a Title 1 Parental Involvement Policy to be distributed to parents of participating children.

At the annual meeting, Title 1 parents will have opportunities to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program for the next school year. Proposed activities shall be presented to fulfill the requirements of parent involvement.

In addition to the required annual meeting, at least three additional meetings shall be held, at various times of the day and/or evenings, for parents of children participating in the Title 1 program. These meetings shall be used to provide parents with:

1. Information about programs provided under Title 1;
2. A 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 related to the education of their children; and
4. The opportunity for parents to bring comments to the District level if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title 1 program.

Title 1 funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

The Principal and Title 1 staff shall provide the parents of children identified to participate in Title 1 programs with an explanation of the reasons supporting each child's selection for the program, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of the services. There will be opportunities for the parents to meet with the classroom and Title 1 teachers to discuss their child's progress. Parents will also receive guidance to assist in the education of their children at home.

Each Title 1 school shall jointly develop a "School-Parent Compact" with parents outlining the manner in which parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement in meeting State standards.

The "School-Parent Compact" shall:

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children in the Title 1 program to meet the State's academic achievement standards;

2. Indicate the ways in which each parent 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 use of extra-curricular time; and

3. Stress the importance of parent-teacher communication through parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

(cf. 1110.1 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6161.3 - Comparability of Services)

Legal Reference: Improving America's Schools Act, P.L. No. 103-382, Sec 1112
Local Education Agency Plans.

Improving America's Schools Act (IASA), P.L. 103-382.

PL 107-110, "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001," Title 1 - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, Sec. 1118.

Policy adopted: October 27, 2003

Administrative Guidelines

To achieve the level of Title 1 parent involvement desired by the Board of Education, these guidelines will direct the development of each school's annual plan designed to foster a cooperative effort among the parents, school and community.

A. Guidelines

Parent involvement activities developed at each school will include opportunities for:

- volunteering;
- parent education;
- home support for child's education;
- parent participation in school decision-making

The school system will provide opportunities for professional development and resources for staff and parent/community regarding effective parent involvement practices.

B. Roles and Responsibilities

1. Parents

It is the responsibility of the parent to:

- actively communicate with school staff;
- be aware of rules and regulations of school;
- take an active role in the child's education by reinforcing, at home, the skills and knowledge the student has learned in school;

- utilize opportunities for participation in school activities.

2. Staff

It is the responsibility of the staff to:

- develop and implement a school plan for parent involvement;
- promote and encourage parent involvement activities;
- effectively and actively communicate with all parents about skills, knowledge and attributes students are learning in school and suggestions for reinforcement;
- send information to parents of Title 1 children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

3. Community

Community members who volunteer in the schools have the responsibility to:

- be aware of rules and regulation of the school;
- utilize opportunities for participation in school activities.

4. Administration

It is the responsibility of the administration to:

- facilitate and implement the Title 1 Parent Involvement Policy and Plan;
- provide training and space for parent involvement activities;
- provide resources to support successful parent involvement practices;
- provide in-service education to staff regarding the value and use of contributions of parents and how to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners;
- send information to parents of Title 1 children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

October 27, 2003