

District Title I Parent Involvement

Pursuant to federal law, the district and the parents of students participating in Title I district programs have jointly developed the following parent involvement policy. The policy shall be implemented by the superintendent or designee according to the timeline set forth in the policy and incorporated into the district's Title I plan.

Involvement with Title I planning

The district shall hold an annual meeting for parents of students in Title I programs, as well as school Title I staff, principals of schools receiving Title I funds and other interested persons to discuss the Title I program plan, review implementation of the Title I plan, discuss how Title I funds allotted for parent involvement activities shall be used, and invite suggestions for improvement.

District support for parent involvement

The district shall provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in building the capacity for strong parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

This coordination, assistance and support shall include:

- creation of a District Parent Advisory Council to provide advice on all matters related to parent involvement in programs supported by Title I funds

The district, with the assistance of parents, shall develop and implement a district professional development plan to enhance the skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in:

- the value and utility of contributions of parents
- how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
- implementing and coordinating parent programs
- building ties between parents and the school

Coordination of parent involvement activities with other district programs

The district shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and district preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their child.

This will include:

- quarterly meetings of staff involved in these programs
 - coordination of written materials to parents regarding these meetings
 - parent participation welcome at all meetings
- programs being combined with parent night/open house

Student learning

The district shall coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs in the district. The purpose of this coordination shall be to improve the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who:

- are economically disadvantaged
- have disabilities
- have limited English proficiency
- have limited literacy
- are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- are parents of migratory children

The integration of Lake County School District programs will be accomplished through:

- translated correspondence
- common identification procedures in programs
- staff sharing of resources and information

The district shall provide to parents, as appropriate, information to help them understand the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor students' academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of students. The district shall develop written materials and training for staff to help parents work with students to improve student achievement.

This will be accomplished through the identification of parents' needs through surveys. Programs will then be developed through the joint efforts of parents and staff. These would include opportunities for:

- training for parents in literacy through
 - parent classes
 - parent nights

- training for parents in use of technology

School-based parent involvement activities

Parents will be encouraged to become involved in the activities of schools with Title I programs. This will be accomplished through:

- sending support materials home on a regular basis
- encouragement of parental involvement in the classroom by staff and volunteer coordinators

The following standards developed by the National Parent Teacher Association will be used as a guide:

- Communicating – communication between home and school is regular, two-way and meaningful
- Parenting – parenting skills are promoted and supported
- Student learning – parents play an integral role in assisting student learning
- Volunteering – parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought
- School decision making and advocacy – parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families
- Collaborating with the community – community resources are used to strengthen schools, families and student learning

Method of communicating with parents

All information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities shall be sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Annual evaluation

The district shall conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy. Effectiveness shall be measured in part by improvements in student academic achievement and in school performance.

The evaluation shall specifically address barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who:

- are economically disadvantaged
- have disabilities
- have limited English proficiency
- have limited literacy

- are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- are parents of migratory children

The district shall use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, this policy.

The district shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

Development of school-level Title I parent involvement policy

Each school receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with and distribute to parents of students participating in the Title I program (hereafter referred to as “parents”) a written School-Level Title I Parent Involvement Policy agreed upon by the parents in accordance with the requirements of federal law.

The policy shall contain a school-parent compact or agreement that outlines how parents, school staff and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students. At a minimum, the compact shall include the provisions contained in the sample exhibit (KB-E-1) attached to this policy.

November, 2003

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-11-101 *et seq.* (Education Accountability Act of 2009)
C.R.S. 22-7-407 (5) (informing parents about standards-based education)
20 U.S.C. §6301 *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)
Title I, Part A, Section 1118 (Title I parent involvement requirements)
Title I, Part A, Section 1114 (b)(1)(F) (Schoolwide Reform Program must include strategies to increase parent involvement)
Title I, Part A, Section 1115 (c)(1)(g) (Targeted Assistance Program must include parent involvement strategies)
Title I, Part A, Section 1116 (a)(1)(D) (school districts' receiving Title I funds must review effectiveness of parent involvement actions and activities at schools)
Title I, Part F, Section 1606 (a)(7) (Comprehensive School Reform Grant Program parent involvement requirements)
Title II, Part A, Section (a)(3)(B)(IV) (preparing and training for highly qualified teachers and principals Grant Program parent involvement provisions)
Title I, Part A, Section 1112 (g) (parent involvement and notifications in districts using Title I funds to provide language instruction to limited English proficient students)
Title I, Part C, Section 1304 (b)(3) (parent involvement and notifications in districts using Title I funds for the education of migratory children)

Title I, Part A, Section 1114 (b)(2) (*eligible school that desires to operate a schoolwide program must develop a comprehensive reform plan*)

CROSS REFS.: ADA, School District Goals and Objectives
AE, Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishments
AEA, Standards Based Education
IA, Instructional Goals and Learning Objectives
IHBIB, Primary/Preprimary Education
IL, Evaluation of Instructional Program
ILBA, District Program Assessment
ILBB, State Program Assessments
KD, Public Information and Communications