

STUDENTS

Series 500

Policy Title: Parent and Family Engagement District-Wide Policy Regulation

Code No. 505.08-R(1)

To further the interests of student achievement, the superintendent will create necessary rules to engage parents and family members within the district in the following ways on a building-level basis::

See Highlighted Text Below

1. This jointly developed, written policy is distributed to parents of participating Title I children through developing a school-compact, written agreement, between the school and parents of student participating in the Title I Reading services.
2. An annual meeting is held for all parents of participating children, both public and private. Additional parent meetings with flexible meeting times shall be held throughout the year as determined by parent interest and suggestions. The district will be sending home monthly progress monitoring graphs to ensure students and parents understand the growth or lack thereof students are making.
3. Parents are given assistance in understanding the requirements of the Title I law, National Educational Goals, content standards, performance standards, and assessments. The Title I teacher will be sharing a Parent/Student/School Learning Compact to help build background for all parties involved.
4. Parents receive an explanation of the school's performance profile, expected proficiency levels for students, and their student's assessment results. The data that will be shared with parents is from the FAST assessment, ISASP, and the IRLA from the new literacy curriculum.
5. Parents are informed of the reasons for their children's participation, the curriculum, and the instructional objectives and methods of the program.
6. Parents receive timely responses to all parent recommendations. All information sent to parents is in the language used in the home, Full opportunities are provided for all parents to participate in Title I activities for example holding a Literacy Night and giving parents opportunities to take part in different sessions offered that align to District Reading Curriculum and reading strategies.
7. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and parents continue to build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the local high standards. Using the survey sent to parents and families, the school uses this data for effective Title 1 Reading practices.
8. The Title I program provides opportunities for parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of their children at home and at school. Parents are given help monitoring their student's progress, The school provides assistance to parents on how they can participate in decisions related to their student's education. The school provides reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents.
9. The school coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs and activities with other programs as appropriate. During family Literacy Night, parents attend different sessions about reading strategies. The school bookfair also engages students' families and teachers.
10. An annual evaluation of this parental involvement policy shall be conducted to determine the effectiveness of this policy and the barriers of this policy for increasing parent involvement. Policy evaluation findings shall be used in designing strategies for school improvement and revising parent policies. Each year, a parent survey is sent home or completed electronically to help advise and be involved in the development of the Title 1 Reading Program.

1. Policy Involvement: The district will host an annual meeting and invite all parents to attend; and inform parents of their rights and the district's requirements under Title I. This meeting will also invite parents to become involved in the planning, review and improvement of a building policy and in developing the district plan. The district will inform parents of:
 - programs under this policy,
 - curriculum and assessment used for students,
 - the opportunity to meet with administration to participate in decisions related to their children's education,
 - a description and explanation of curriculum used in the school forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and
 - achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards.
2. Accessibility: Provide opportunities for informed participation of parents and family members in understandable formats and languages. This includes participation by parents and family members who may have disabilities, limited English proficiency, and migratory children. Offer a flexible number of meetings during the day, evening and weekends to facilitate parent involvement. The superintendent has discretion to allow schools to provide childcare for families of students during these meetings through Title I funds.
3. High Student Academic Achievement: Each school in the district will jointly develop with parents and family members a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, staff and students share responsibility for improving student academic achievement; and how a partnership will be built to achieve this. The compact will describe the responsibility of the school to provide high quality curriculum and instruction, and the parents' responsibility to support their children's learning. This will also address the importance of communication between schools and parents through parent teacher conferences, regular reports to parents on their children's progress, and ensuring regular meaningful communication between family and school staff.
4. Building Capacity for Involvement: Each school within the district will include in their plan ways to achieve the following:
 - Assist parents and families to understand topics including academic standards and assessments and how to monitor student progress;
 - Provide materials and training to help parents work with students to improve achievement;
 - Educate teachers and staff in how to communicate with parents and build ties to foster academic success;
 - Coordinate and integrate other federal, state and local programs to support parents in more fully participating in students' education;
 - Ensure information related to programs is sent to parents and families in understandable formats; and
 - Provide other reasonable support to encourage parental involvement
5. Schools Operating a Schoolwide Program: Each school operating a schoolwide program under this policy shall:
 - Involve parents on a timely and ongoing basis in the planning, review and improvement of programs, including the parent and family engagement school policy drafting and review, and the joint development of the schoolwide program.
 - If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of the participating children, parent comments will be requested and submitted with the plan to the district.