

District Title I Parent Involvement Regulation

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.

Coordination, assistance and support may include, but need not be limited to:

- Supporting and coordinating parent involvement through the services of the district's cadre of Prevention Specialists
- Disseminating parent involvement information and materials grounded in research to schools and teams
- Coordinating parent support services with the district's BEST teams
- Incorporating parent outreach goals into the district's School Improvement Planning requirements
- Encouraging schools to include parent outreach as part of their site's strategic plan
- Making relevant information available on the district website and/or through other appropriate channels

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

The professional development plan will be developed and implemented by the district with parent input.

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 students.

This may include, but need not be limited to:

- Implementation, evaluation, and refinement of a transition plan for students from preschool to Kindergarten
- Coordination between the Preschool and Head Start, e.g., contracted services, referrals of students across programs, invitation of Head Start personnel to serve on the CPP Advisory Council, inclusion of Head Start in Preschool Parent activities
- Coordination with Migrant Education, Special Education, and CARE teams as appropriate

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

This may include, but need not be limited to:

- Coordination of services through the district's Prevention Specialists
- ESL instruction support strategies for parents of LEP students
- Provision of funding for translators for activities such as parent/teacher conferences or district meetings
- Translation of key district and school documents intended for parent audiences
- The encouragement of Spanish-speaking parents to serve as volunteers
- Outreach by district and schools to have the District and School Accreditation and Accountability Committees reflect the demographics of the community

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 may include, but need not be limited to:

- Dissemination of grade level curriculum brochures for parents in English and in Spanish
- Encouragement for schools to provide activities such as parent literacy and/or math nights; CSAP Nights for Parents
- Opportunities to participate in District and/or School Accreditation and Accountability Committee meetings
- Involvement of parents in development of school and district level strategic planning
- Dissemination of “how to help your child succeed in school” information through district and school channels
- Providing permission slips for relevant activities to parents in English and in Spanish, e.g., for student participation in Math Recovery and Count Me In Too

School-based Parent Involvement Activities

Parents will be encouraged to become involved in the activities of schools with Title I programs through, but not limited to:

- Phone calls by school staff
- Personal invitations by staff and by other parents
- Communication through other school and district channels

The District and Title I schools will encourage parent involvement that increases student academic achievement, improved student behavior, reduction in absenteeism, and improved attitude toward school and learning (Rich, 1990).

The District and Title I schools will seek to involve parents in ways that also benefit the parents, such as increasing self-confidence in their roles as their children’s first teachers, becoming knowledgeable of their children’s school programs, increasing parental motivation to pursue their own educational goals, and becoming more active in community affairs. (Davies, 1989)

The District and Title I school will pursue a variety of means by which parents may become involved with their school community, such as:

- Communicating. Regular communication between home and school is two-way and meaningful.
- Parenting. Parenting skills are promoted and supported.
- Student learning. Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning.
- Volunteering. Parents’ support and assistance are welcome in the school.
- Decision-making. 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 Procedure

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

The procedure 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.

- LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-7-101 through 22-7-107 (*Educational Accountability Act of 1971*) (*local accountability programs*)
C.R.S. 22-7-407 (5) (*informing parents about standards-based education*)
C.R.S. 22-11-201 (4)(b)(I) (*accreditation contract must bind district to administer community involvement, including processes for parents*)
C.R.S. 22-30.5-109 (*publicity regarding educational options*)
1 CCR 301-1, Rules 2202-R.2.01 (4)(j) (*accreditation contract must include goals and processes for informing and involving parents, families, community and accountability committees*)
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) (*School wide 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 school wide program must develop a comprehensive reform plan*)
- CROSS REFS.: AE, Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishments
IA, School District Goals and Objectives
KDB-R, Public's Right to Know