

Book: Policy Manual

Section: 900 Community

Title: Federal Programs Family Engagement

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*Last reviewed by Federal Programs committee 5/3/2022. No changes made for board approval or review.

Purpose

The Board recognizes that parent involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents/guardians and community.

Authority

In compliance with federal law, the district and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written Family Engagement Policy. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will: [\[1\]](#)

1. Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of the district's overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement.
2. Involve parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the funds reserved for parental involvement are spent and will ensure that no less than 95% of 1% reserved goes directly to the schools.
3. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
4. Develop activities that promote the schools' and parents'/guardians' capacity for strong family involvement.
5. Coordinate and integrate family involvement strategies with appropriate programs, as provided by law.
6. Involve families in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I.

7. Identify and reducing barriers to participation by families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority using best practices.
8. Use findings of annual evaluations to design strategies for more effective family involvement.
9. Involve families in the activities of schools served under Title I.

The Board shall adopt and distribute the parental involvement policy, which shall be incorporated into the district's Title I plan and shall be evaluated annually, family involvement.[\[1\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I family engagement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

1. Explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
2. Set of objectives to be addressed.
3. Description of the services to be provided.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that information and reports provided to parents/guardians are in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

Guidelines

An annual meeting of families of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. Families shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Families shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.[\[1\]](#)

In addition to the required annual meeting, additional family meetings shall be held at various times of the day and evening. At these meetings, parents/guardians shall be provided:[\[1\]](#)

1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
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 family comments about the program to the district level.

Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent/guardian attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and child care costs.

Opportunities shall be provided for parents/guardians to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child's progress.

Families may be given guidance as to how they can assist at home in the education of their child.

School-Parent Compact

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents/guardians of students served in the program a School-Parental Compact outlining the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff and students share responsibility for improved student achievement in meeting academic standards. The compact shall:

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in the Title I program to meet the district's academic standards.
2. Indicate the ways in which families 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 positive use of extracurricular time.
3. Address the importance of parent/guardian-teacher communication on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, parent/guardian-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents/guardians, and reasonable access to staff.

Legal

[1. 20 U.S.C. 6318](#)

2. Pol. 102

[22 PA Code 403.1](#)