

SUBJECT: **PARENT INVOLVEMENT – Title I**

The Board of Education believes that positive parental involvement is essential to student achievement, and thus encourages such involvement in school educational planning and operations. Parental involvement may take place either in the classroom or during extracurricular activities. However, the Board also encourages parental involvement at home (e.g., planned home reading time, informal learning activities, and/or homework “contracts” between parents and children).

The Board endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Therefore, it encourages the participation of parents of students eligible for Title I services in all aspects of their child’s education, including the development and implementation of district programs, activities, and procedures designed to carry out NCLB parent involvement goals.

In accordance with NCLB requirements, the district will:

1. involve parents in the joint development of its Title I plan. If the plan is not satisfactory to the parents of children participating in the Title I programs, the district will submit any parent comments to the State Education Department along with its plan;
2. involve parents in the process of school review and improvement. This includes:
  - a. explaining to parents how they can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused their child’s school to be identified as a school in need of improvement; consulting with parents in the development of a school improvement plan, and including in such plan strategies to promote effective parental involvement.
  - b. Provide parents with adequate opportunity to participate in the development of a restructuring, and to comment before the district implements an alternative governance arrangement;
3. provide coordinated, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in their own planning and implementation of effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
4. build the capacity of its schools and parents for parental involvement;
5. conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including the identification of barriers to

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greater participation by parents in the activities under the policy, and revision of parent involvement policies necessary for more effective parental involvement; and

6. involve parents in the activities of schools served under Title I.

Each Title I school must notify parents of its parent involvement policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. In addition, Title I schools must make their parents involvement policy available to the local community and update it periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

To the extent practicable, both the district and its Title I schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. Activities in this area include providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

To ensure effective involvement by parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, both the district and each of its Title I schools will:

1. assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and student achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
2. provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
3. educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of parent contributions, and in how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;

The district and its schools may also consider other activities that further build the capacity of parents to become involved, to the extent those activities are feasible and appropriate. In accordance with NCLB, these additional optional activities may include, for example,

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the establishment of a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I programs, and training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

**Student Academic Achievement School-Parent Compact**

A school level Title I parent involvement policy must also include a school-parent compact that is jointly developed with the parents of all participating children.

In general, the compact must outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards

Ref: § 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
8 NYCRR §§100.3(b)(3); 100.4(f); 100.5(d)(4); 149.3(16)

Under Development: 10/06/06