

## Title I Parental Involvement

- A. The board recognizes that parent involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in district programs. The board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among school, parents and community. The board expects that its schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with the statutory definition of parental involvement. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that parents:
1. Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  2. Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
  3. Are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- B. The board of directors adopts as part of this policy the following guidance for parent involvement. The district will:
1. Put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its Title I schools consistent with federal laws including the development and evaluation of policy. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children;
  2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in the planning and implementing of effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
  3. Build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement;
  4. Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction, Preschool Youngsters, or state-run preschools;
  5. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served with Title I funds including: identifying barriers to greater participation of parents in Title I related activities, with particular attention to participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children; and
  6. Involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent.

Legal References: 20 USC § 6311 ("No Child Left Behind Act")

Management Resources: *Policy News*, October 2008      Family Involvement Policy  
*Policy News*, June 2005                      Title I Parental Involvement Policy  
*Policy News*, August 2003                    No Child Left Behind Update

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**Mabton School District**  
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### Federal Requirements

The superintendent or designee will ensure that the district's Title I Parent Involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

- A. The district will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan:
  1. An annual meeting of parents of participating Title I students will be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. *(Insert here when and where the meeting will be held, who will be invited and who is responsible for planning the annual meeting.);*
  2. Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the development, operation and evaluation of the program. *(Insert here what opportunities will be provided and how parents will be informed that they can participate in development, operation and evaluation of the program.);* and
  3. Parents will be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. *(Describe the outreach efforts that the district will use to receive input from parents.)*
- B. The district will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:
  1. Parents will be given the opportunity to review the school improvement plan *(describe when, where and how this opportunity will be provided.);* and
  2. Parents will be encouraged to participate in the building self-review *(describe when and how parents will be encouraged to participate.).*
- C. The district will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities:
  1. Identify barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities;
  2. Use findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement; and
  3. Revise, when necessary, the district and school parent involvement policies.
- D. The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with similar strategies under the following other programs, such as:
  1. Head Start;
  2. Even Start;
  3. Learning Assistance Program;
  4. Special Education; and
  5. State-operated preschool programs.

The district will facilitate removing barriers to parental involvement by activities such as:

- a. Conducting joint parent meetings with other programs;
  - b. Holding meetings at various times of the day and evening;
  - c. Arranging for in home conferences; and
  - d. Title I funds may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings by payment of transportation and child care costs.
- E. The district will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.

- F. The district will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement through the following:
1. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide information to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
    - a. The State's essential academic learning requirements;
    - b. The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
    - c. How to monitor their child's progress; and
    - d. How to work with educators (*Describe how the district will assist parents, i.e. quarterly newsletter, assigning staff members as mentors, or community meetings.*)
  2. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, by:
    - a. Giving guidance as to how parents can assist at home in the education of their child;
    - b. Holding parent meetings at various times of the day and evening to provide parents;
    - c. Providing opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children;
    - d. Submitting parent comments about the program to the district; and
    - e. Providing parents with opportunities to meet with the classroom and Title I, Part A teachers to discuss their children's progress.
- G. School district personnel will work with teachers, principals and other staff, to reach out to communicate with, and engage parents as equal partners. The district will provide:
1. An explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program;
  2. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum;
  3. Information in the academic assessment used to measure student progress; and
  4. Information on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. (*Describe how the district will provide this information to parents, i.e. a news letter, community meetings, etc.*)
- H. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
1. Distribute the Title I Family Involvement policy on a annual basis (*Describe how this will occur i.e. school bulletin, website, beginning of school information*); and
  2. To the extent needed and practicable, distribute the Title I Family Involvement policy in multiple languages or formats.

### **School-Based Parent Involvement Policy**

In addition to the district-wide policy on family involvement, each school offering Title I, Part A services will have a separate school building parent involvement policy.

The building-level Title I, Part A parent involvement policy will meet the following requirements:

- A. Each building in the district receiving Title I, Part A funds will jointly develop with and distribute to parents of students served in the program a written building-level policy, agreed upon by parents of Title I served students;
- B. The policy will outline how parents, school staff and students share responsibility for student achievement in meeting academic standards;
- C. Parents will be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format;
- D. To the extent practicable, the policy will be provided in a language the parents can understand; and
- E. The policy will be evaluated with parents annually.