

KBF: Parent Involvement in Title I Programs

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 18

File: KBF

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN TITLE 1 PROGRAMS

The Board recognizes that parent involvement is a significant factor in the academic achievement of students and in improving the quality of our schools. The Board encourages parents of students in Title I programs to become involved in their education and to participate in programs and activities offered by the School Unit. To that end, this policy has been developed jointly with parents of students in Title I programs.

This policy outlines how the School Unit and each school will support and implement parent involvement activities. The Superintendent is responsible for designating appropriate personnel to carry out the School Unit responsibilities described in this policy.

Development of Title I Plan

- How the School Unit will involve parents in developing the School Unit's Title I

Support for Parent Involvement Activities

- How the School Unit will provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist each Title I school in planning and implementing effective parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- The School Unit and each school will support and build parental and community involvement in the schools, including the following activities:
 - Shall provide assistance to parents in understanding state and local achievement standards and assessments and how they can work with teachers to improve their child's achievement;
 - Shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve achievement (such as literary training and use of technology);
 - Shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value of parent involvement and methods to foster and increase parent involvement in the schools;
 - Shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate parent involvement programs and activities with public and private preschool programs to support parent involvement in the education of their child;
 - May involve parents in the development of teacher training to improve its effectiveness;
 - May provide necessary literacy training from Title I funds if "all other reasonable available sources of funding for such training" has been exhausted;
 - May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities (including transportation and child care costs), to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training;
 - May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
 - May arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between teachers and other appropriate school staff with parents who are unable to attend meetings at school;

- May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- May establish a Unit-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on matters related to parent involvement;
- Shall provide "such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request."

School-Level Activities

The following activities shall be conducted in each school for parents of children participating in Title I:

- An annual meeting shall be held to inform parents about Title I and its requirements, and the right of parents to be involved.
- Parents will be included in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, policies and procedures.
- Parents will be provided with the following:
 - oTimely information about Title I programs;
 - oA description and explanation of the school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment and expected student proficiency levels;
 - oAt parent request, opportunities for regular meetings so that parents can make suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their child's education;
 - oMeetings will be held at flexible times, such as mornings or evenings to encourage parent participation.

School-Parent Compact

Each school shall develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, school staff and students will share the responsibility for improving academic achievement and helping students to meet the state's academic standards.

Policy Evaluation and Revisions

The School Unit will conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of the schools. Based on this evaluation, the policy and Title I programs will be revised if necessary to improve parent involvement.

Distribution of Policy

This policy shall be distributed to parents of all students participating in Title I programs.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318

Date of Adoption: July 15, 2009