



Title 1 School-level Parental Involvement Policy

2020-2021

This policy describes the means for carrying out designated Title I Parental Involvement requirements

Russo/ McEntee Academy has developed a written Title I Parental Involvement policy with input from Title I parents. The policy was developed through parent input during the School Site Council Meeting. The policy has been distributed to Title I students through Parent Square and the school website. The policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parental involvement requirements [20 USC 6318 Section 1118(a)-(f) inclusive]

Involvements of the Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents in the Title I program at Russo/McEntee Academy, the following practices have been established:

Ø The school convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the rights of the parents to be involved in the Title I program. During Principal Café's and at School Site Council meetings the principal informs parents about what Title I is, the requirements, and the parents' rights to be involved in the process.

Ø The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening.

Principal Cafés are held on Monday and Thursdays of the month at 5:00 pm via Zoom and the School Site Council Meetings are held at 4:30 pm on Tuesdays.

Ø The school involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs and the Title I parental involvement policy **

Through parent surveys, parents are encouraged to provide input in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs and parental involvement policy.

Ø The school provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs. At the beginning of the school year, the parents provided information through newsletters and parent meetings in which Title I program is discussed.

Ø The school provides parents of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. During Principal Café's and at Back to School Night the school curriculum and assessments used are discussed. During Principal Café's and ELAC meetings, the ELPAC assessment is discussed.

Ø If requested by parents of Title I students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to participate in discussions relating to the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to meet with the school staff to allow parents to be involved in decisions relating to the education of their children. All parents meet with their child's teacher during the parent conference in November.

** The policy must be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. If the school has a process in place for involving parents in planning and designing the school's programs, the school may use that process if it included adequate representation of parents of Title I children [20 USC 6318 Section 1118 © (3)}

School-Parent Compact

Russo/McEntee Academy distributes to parents of Title I students a school-parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

Ø The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction

Ø The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning

Ø The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum annual parent-teacher conference; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities.

The Title I school-parent compact was jointly created between the school and parent input following guidelines provided by the district. Teachers and parents review the compacts during conferences and sign the document.

District and School Parent Involvement Policy

Russo/McEntee welcomes and appreciates the active engagement of parents as volunteers in the school. We believe that parent volunteers help enrich the student's education and provide extra assistance for teachers and school staff. Opportunities also exist for committee membership (at both school and district levels) that are concerned with programs and services for students. On July 2, 2013, the Alum Rock Board of Trustees approved a new parent involvement policy regarding parent volunteer opportunities at all schools. The policy acknowledges the importance of

increased parent involvement. Board Policy 6020 states 21 “The Board of Trustees recognizes that parents/guardians are their children’s first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement school and a positive environment. Parent involvement in the education process is fundamental to a healthy system of public education and that family involvement at home and school in the education of children results in improved pupil achievement. Therefore, the District believes it is every family and guardian’s obligation and responsibility to volunteer at least 30 hours per year at the student’s school site, of which 10 of those hours should include volunteer time in the student’s classroom.” Russo/McEntee offers many opportunities for the parents to participate in their child’s learning through, serving on either a school or district committee, volunteering in the classroom, helping teachers with photocopying, and chaperoning during a field trip or a school event. However, in times of Distance Learning, we recognize that the parents are our greatest asset. The school believes that it is important during distance learning for the parents to attend the school meetings, keep in touch with the teachers, and assist their children at home with their learning. Having strong communication between parents and school is the key to student success during distance learning.

Building Capacity for Involvement

Russo/McEntee Academy engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices.

Ø The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State’s academic content standards, assessment, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children. These topics are discussed with parents at Principal’s Café’s SSC meetings, and ELAC meetings as well as Back to School Night with the

teachers, and at parent-teacher conferences.

Ø The school provides Title I parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement. Parents are provided with resources and suggestions to help them work with children when they attend parent-teacher conferences. At these conferences, the parents understand which area their children need to improve in. Teachers also provide strategies and materials needed to help the students.

Ø With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent contributions and how to work with parents as equal partners. Russo/McEntee Academy provides professional development to staff about the added values parents bring when they are active partners in the education of their students. The school staff works closely with the parents to build a strong partnership.

Ø The school coordinates and integrates the Title I parental involvement program with other programs, and conducts activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support the parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Russo/McEntee Academy provides parental involvement programs with other academic programs to encourage parent participation.

Ø The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand, Russo/McEntee Academy distributes monthly newsletters to inform parents about the parent programs, meetings, and other activities occurring on campus, this information is also posted on the Parent Square.

Ø The school provides support for parental involvement activities requested by Title I parents. The FRC location in our quadrant offers classes to the parents.

Accessibility

Russo/McEntee Academy provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.

Russo/McEntee Academy provides parents with documents in English and Spanish. All paperwork or documentation is sent home in their designated home language, either English or Spanish. We provide documentation in a language that represents more than 11% of our school population. We also provide translation services on parent's requests for documents and meetings so that parents and the school staff can bridge the communication gap.