

KALISPELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS - KALISPELL, MONTANA

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Kalispell Public School District is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by all of our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

Grade level skill proficiency goals for children of Kalispell Public Schools will be made available to parents with expectation that all students will work toward these goals. We recognize that some students may need extra assistance, available through the Title I program, to reach those goals. The Kalispell Public School District intends to include parents in all aspects of the district's Title I program. The goal is a school-home partnership that will help all students in the district to succeed.

2. PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING POLICY

A Title I Parent Advisory Council met to develop our school district's Parent Involvement Policy. The Advisory Council was chosen from volunteers in each school attendance area in the district after appropriate publicity about the need for volunteers was given. Special attention was given to recruiting parents of children in the Title I program.

3. ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I PARENTS TO BE HELD IN EACH SCHOOL

At the annual meeting for parents of students participating in the Title I program, which will be held in the fall of the school year in each participating Title I school in the district, parents will be given information about the Title I guidelines. They will be given copies of the district's current Title I Parent Involvement Policy and will be offered the opportunity to be involved in their child's school. Parents will be notified in writing of the annual meeting by the Title I instructors in the individual schools.

4. PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER COMPACTS

According to Title I regulations, each school must share responsibility with parents for high student performance by developing a school-parent-student compact. These compacts will outline how parents, staff, and students will share responsibility for promoting high student achievement. Parents, teachers, and Title I instructors have produced a Parent/Student/Teacher compact currently in use. Parents will be involved in changing or improving the current format. Student responsibilities may vary by grade.

Parents will meet with their child's Title I instructor and classroom teacher to determine the responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students will each have in helping students achieve their goals.

5. MATCHING PROGRAM TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

Each year, the Kalispell Public Schools Title I program will assess the needs of parents and children through a variety of measures so that the Title I program will be tailored to meet those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available (some for parents and some for families) to match the expressed needs. Parents will be notified about these opportunities through individual schools.

6. STAFF-PARENT COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents will include notices of community and school sponsored events and classes, suggestions for establishing good study habits, and other helpful materials sent home. Monthly newsletters providing parents with practical ideas to promote school success, parent involvement and effective parenting will be sent home and/or provided through the district web site when possible. Phone calls and conferences will also be conducted as needed. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative to call their child's teacher when they have concerns.

7. EVALUATION

Parents of children in the Title I program will be involved in the process of school review and improvement. Information will be collected through the annual site-based Parent Advisory Meetings held at each school receiving Title I, Part A funds. The evaluation will include an assessment of current parent involvement practices, the content and effectiveness of the Title I parent involvement program, and what barriers to parent participation still need to be overcome. The Kalispell Public School District will revise its Parent Involvement Policy on the basis of these annual reviews.

This commitment to family involvement will be coordinated by Title I supervisory staff and teachers and promoted by building principals and other school staff.

Approved unanimously by the District #5 Parent Advisory Council on January 25, 1996. (Revised: May, 1998; May 1999; May 2000, June 2001, June 2003, May 2004, May 2009, May 2013)