

POLICY NO. 6001.5

Adopted: 5-13-09

Revised: 11-14-18

Revised: 2-7-24

TITLE I FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

POLICY:

The Board recognizes that parent and family engagement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in Title I programs. The Board expects that its schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with the statutory definition of parent and family engagement.

The District shall do the following to promote family engagement within the Title I Program:

- A. Involve families in jointly developing and continuously refining the Title I Plan and Title I Family Engagement Plans. We will engage families in providing input and feedback on these plans by holding annual meetings at each Title I school, gathering feedback on family engagement plans and activities, and conducting annual surveys on the program. This family feedback will help identify:
 - a. Priorities and preferences for how the Title I funds reserved for family engagement are spent in alignment with federal guidance on acceptable use of these funds
 - b. Barriers to greater participation in Title I activities with particular attention to participation of parents and family with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children
 - c. The needs of families to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school staff
 - d. Strategies to support successful school and family interactions
- B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of participating schools in the planning and implementing of effective parent and family engagement activities, utilizing feedback from current families, to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- C. Coordinate and integrate Title I parent and family engagement strategies with parent and family engagement strategies under other programs,

such as: ECEAP and Head Start, state-operated preschool programs, Learning Assistance Program, Multilingual Learner Program, and Special Education.

The District and each of the schools within the district providing Title I services, will do the following to support a partnership among schools, families, and community to improve student academic achievement:

- A. Provide assistance to families of students qualified for Title I services, as appropriate in understanding the following topics:
 - a. Washington state academic standards;
 - b. State and local assessments;
 - c. The requirements of Title I;
 - d. How to monitor their child's progress; and
 - e. How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- B. Provide materials and ideas to support families in working with their children to increase academic achievement.
- C. Ensure that information related to school and family programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to families of participating children in multiple formats and in languages in which families request communication. Work to identify and remove barriers to families engaging in these activities (childcare, transportation, etc.).
- D. Each school-based plan will include a school-family compact that outlines how caregivers, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact will describe the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet Washington's challenging academic standards, and the importance of two way communication about their child's progress towards these standards.

Legal Reference:

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
20 USC 6312 Local educational agency plans
20 USC 6318 Parent and Family Engagement
PL 107-110, Section 1118(a)

Management Resources:

2018- February Policy Issue
Policy News, October 2008 Family Involvement Policy Policy

News, June 2005 Title I Parental Policy Policy
News, August 2003 No Child Left Behind Update

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PROCEDURES:

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall ensure that the District's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, building-level plans, and programs comply with the requirements of federal law established under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Each Title I school will develop a family engagement plan aligned with their academic goals and/or school improvement plan and Title I services. Each plan will be tailored to the realities of school families, be culturally relevant to the school community, and delineate strategies to increase family participation in education.

The District will take the following actions to engage parents and families in the joint development of the Title I building family engagement plan:

- A. An annual meeting of parents and families of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. At this meeting, parents and families will be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. The Executive Director responsible for the Title I Program will hold this meeting annually in the fall after the year's Title I student lists have been compiled. All parents and families of Title I students will be invited. Parents and families will be assured that feedback they provide will be considered in shaping and improving all aspects of the Title I program.
- B. Parent feedback will be gathered and utilized in the following areas:
 - a. The Title I plan
 - b. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy
 - c. Identification of barriers to effective parent and family engagement
 - d. The most effective use of allocated parent-engagement set-aside funds
 - e. The School-Family Compact

School district personnel will work with teachers, principals, and other staff to reach out to, communicate with, and engage parents and families as equal partners. Each building provides the following information to parents and families:

- A. An explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program and the annual district and building Title I meetings held in the fall;

- B. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum at the school's Curriculum Night held in the fall of each year;
- C. Information about the academic assessment(s) used to measure student progress; and
- D. Information on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- E. The District will also provide support by including news of meetings and activities on the district website and by providing access to a Spanish language speaker on staff to assist parents. Translators for other languages will be arranged as needed.

The District will ensure that information related to the school and parent and family programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents and families 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.

- A. Distribute the Parent and Family Engagement Policy on an annual basis. The District posts current policies on its website. Copies of the policy will be available to parents and families in English and Spanish at both the district and the building annual Title I meetings in the fall and at subsequent Title I meetings. Schools will send a copy of both the district and the school policy home with students whose parents or families don't sign in at the building meeting. Copies will be sent home in the family's home language.

The District will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities:

- F. Identify barriers to greater participation in parent and family engagement activities through the annual fall parent meeting and the use of an annual spring parent survey;
- G. Use findings of the evaluation of the survey to design strategies for more effective parent and family engagement and to remove barriers to parent and family engagement by such activities as (a) conducting joint parent and family meetings with other programs; (b) holding meetings at various times of the day and evening; and (c) arranging for in-home conferences; and
- H. Revise, when necessary, the district policy and school family engagement plans.

