



Central Islip Union Free School District

Board of Education & School District Policy Book

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Section	Section Title	Type
1100	Public Information Program	Local
Policy	Policy Title	
1900	Parent and Family Engagement	

The Board of Education believes that positive parent and family engagement is essential to student achievement, and thus encourages such involvement in school educational planning and operations. Parent and family engagement may take place either in the classroom or during extra-curricular activities. However, the Board also encourages parent and family engagement at home (e.g., planned home reading time, informal learning activities, and/or homework "contracts" between parents, family members and children). The Board encourages the Superintendent of Schools to develop a home-school communications program in an effort to encourage all forms of parent and family engagement. Parent and family education is included in engagement practices.

Title I Parent and Family Engagement - District Level Policy

Consistent with the parent and family engagement goals of Title I, Part A of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the Board of Education will develop and implement programs, activities and procedures that encourage and support the participation of parents and family members of students eligible for Title I services in all aspects of their child's education. The Board also will ensure that all of its schools receiving Title I, Part A funds adopt or develop school level parent and family engagement procedures and implement school level parent and family engagement procedures, as further required by federal law.

For purposes of this policy, parental involvement refers to the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. At a minimum, parent and family engagement programs, activities and procedures at both the district and individual school level must ensure that parents and family members:

- Play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- Are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and
- 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.

The federal definition of the term "parents" refers to a natural parent, legal guardian or other person standing in *loco parentis* (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

District and school level Title I parent and family engagement programs, activities and procedures will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including those who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children. Where needed, the District will work towards full use of translating devices at parent involvement meetings.

As further required by federal law, parents and family members of students eligible for Title I services will be provided an opportunity to participate in the development of the district's Title I plan, and to submit comments regarding any aspect of the plan that is not satisfactory to them. Their comments will be forwarded with the plan to the State Education Department.

Parents and family members also will participate in the process for developing either a comprehensive or targeted "support and improvement plan" when the school their child attends is identified by the State as needing this plan.

Parent and family member participation in the development of district-wide Title I plan

The Board, along with its Superintendent of Schools and other appropriate district staff will undertake the appropriate actions to ensure parent and family member involvement in the development of the district-wide Title I plan:
Development of school level parent and family engagement approaches

The Superintendent of Schools will ensure that all district schools receiving federal financial assistance under Title I, Part A are provided technical assistance and all other support necessary to assist them in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement and educational programs and activities that improve student achievement and school performance. As appropriate to meet the individual local needs, the Superintendent or his/her designee will

provide technical assistance during Administrative Council, principal meetings, school visits and Board of Education meetings.

Building capacity for parental involvement and education

To build parent capacity for strong parental involvement to improve their child's academic achievement, the district and its Title I, Part A schools will, at a minimum:

1. Assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and challenging academic standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, how to monitor their child's progress and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child. To achieve this objective, the district and its Title I schools will hold district-wide and school-based meetings.
2. Provide materials and training to help parents work to improve their child's academic achievement such as literacy, parent portal and technology training.
3. Educate its teachers specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in understanding the value and utility of a parent's contributions and on how to:
 - a. reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
 - b. implement and coordinate parent programs; and
 - c. build ties between parents and the schools.
4. Ensure that information related to school and parent-related programs, meetings and other activities are sent to the parents of children participating in Title I programs in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats, upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
5. Hold public Board of Education meetings to share student achievement with visual presentations for each school building.
6. Publish information on district's website.

Coordination of parental involvement strategies

The district will coordinate and integrate strategies adopted to comply with the ESEA Title I, Part A parental involvement and education requirements with parental involvement strategies adopted in connection with other Federal, State and local programs, including public preschool programs. For a complete listing, refer to the current AIS Plan.

Review of district-wide parent and family engagement policy

The Board, along with its Superintendent of Schools and other appropriate staff will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including the identification of barriers to greater participation by parents in activities under this policy, and the revision of parent and family engagement policies necessary for more effective involvement. To facilitate this review, the district will conduct the following activities:

- Hold annual meetings to review policies with stakeholders at the Board of Education Grants/Curriculum Committee as coordinated through the district's Grants Office.
- Distribute and review school-based policies annually
- Post all policies on district website

Title I Parental Involvement - School Level Policy

The School Board recognizes that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning. We encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's education at school and to become full partners in school educational planning and operations. Consistent with the parent involvement goals of Title I, Part A of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

1. The Building Principal and appropriate staff shall convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I programs, and to explain Title I requirements and the right of the parents to be involved. All parents of children participating in a Title I program will be invited to the meeting, commonly known as AIS Night.
2. The school staff shall offer a flexible number of meetings to provide parents the opportunity to meet with school staff and otherwise participate in their child's education. These meetings shall be held at flexible times (e.g., morning or evening) and/or in highly accessible places. Where necessary, parents may be accompanied by individuals to advocate on their behalf.
3. The school will provide parents with timely information about Title I programs. School staff will also describe and explain the curriculum in use at the school, the types of academic assessment that will be used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. Parents may also request regular meetings with school

staff to make suggestions and to participate, as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their child. The school will respond to any such suggestions.

4. The school staff shall involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, reviewing, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, reviewing, and improvement of the school's parent involvement policy.

Adoption date: March 14, 2011

Revision date: February 12, 2018

Cross Reference:

4010, Equivalence in Instruction

Reference:

20 USC §§6318(a)(2); 7801(38), Every Student Succeeds Act (§1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act)

U.S. Department of Education, *Parental Involvement, Title I, Part A, Non-Regulatory Guidance*, April 23, 2004