612.1 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICIES FOR TITLE I PROGRAMS

EV-W Mission Statement

Eden Valley-Watkins Public School - It is our mission to:

1. *Provide a challenging and appropriate education, meeting the needs of the whole individual.*
2. *Provide a safe, nurturing environment.*
3. *Nourish a spirit of community cooperation.*
4. *Foster respect for the environment and the global community.*

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and facilitate involvement by parents of students participating in Title I in the educational programs and experiences of students. The policy shall provide the framework for organized, systematic, ongoing, informed and timely parental involvement in relation to decisions about the Title I services within the school district. The involvement of parents by the school district shall be directed toward both public and private school children whose parents are school district residents or whose children attend school within the boundaries of the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

School District #463 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 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.

III. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Eden Valley-Watkins agrees to implement the following requirements:

- Eden Valley-Watkins will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities, and procedure will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

- Eden Valley-Watkins will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level Parental Involvement Policy/Procedure meet the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.

- Eden Valley-Watkins will incorporate this district-wide Parental Involvement

Policy/Procedures into its district plan.

- In carrying out the Title I parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, Eden Valley-Watkins and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

- If Eden Valley-Watkins' plan for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to Minnesota Department of Education.

- Eden Valley-Watkins will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I allocations greater than $500,000.)

- Eden Valley-Watkins will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in Minnesota (i.e., Minnesota Parent Center, Bloomington, MN).

IV. DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

A. Eden Valley-Watkins will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development/revision of its district parent involvement policy/procedures:

How will parents be included in development/revising the parent involvement policy/procedures?

PER Meetings, Title One Parent Meeting

B. Eden Valley-Watkins will involve parents in the joint development of district plan, review and improvement (i.e., district plan, section 1112, schoolwide section 1114, and/or school improvement section 1116)

School Newsletters, School Website, Parent/Teacher Conferences, PER Meetings, Title One Parent Meeting and Staff Development Funds will be available to demonstrate:

- The district involved parents in the joint development of the Title I plan;
- The district informed parents of school report card;
- The district notified the parents that the district has been identified it needs improvement;
- The district consulted with parents about the district plan for improvement;
- The district conducted staff development for implementing effective strategies for

parental involvement.

C. Eden Valley-Watkins will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve students academic achievement and school performance.

Title One Staff Meetings will meet this criteria.

D. Eden Valley-Watkins will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

1. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- The state's academic content standards,
- The state's student academic achievement standards,
- The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- The requirements of Title I,
- How to work with educators

Providing guidance to websites and access to the Internet when necessary will be used for assessments, monitoring progress, and working with educators.

2. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.

Community Education classes, both technology and parenting, will be offered to assist in this endeavor.

3. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.

Title One Meetings, Faculty Meetings, Workshop Accessibility will be used to meet this criteria.

4. The school district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Parental involvement and volunteering in our ECSE, ECFE, and School Readiness programs will be areas to use to coordinate and integrate these programs.

5. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents 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.

School Newsletters, Local Newspapers, School Website, School Mailings will be used for informational purposes to parents.

E. Eden Valley-Watkins will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

This will be done by the Title I Director. At the parent meeting, an evaluation of the parental involvement policy will take place.

F. Eden Valley-Watkins will involve parents in the decisions regarding how funds are reserved and used for parental involvement activities.

Title One Parent Meetings and PER meetings will be used to involve parents in decision making.

V. DISCETIONARY DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY/PROCEDURES COMPONENTS

Eden Valley-Watkins Parental Involvement Policy/Procedures may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in

the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school in an agreed upon location and in a satisfactory manner to school district and parents.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.
- Establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parental Involvement)

Cross References: ISD 463 Policies 1110, 1112, 1312