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Grand Rapids Area Schools Title I Family Involvement Plan

2025-2026

Grand Rapids Area Schools is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every student in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with families and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our students. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Families play an extremely important role as student'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.

Each elementary school's Title I Family Involvement Committee plans, supports, and reviews the Family Involvement and Engagement activities for **Grand Rapids Area Schools**.

One aspect of the Committee's mission is: to build a connected network of partnerships among families, schools, and community to increase student success and develop the whole child.

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

The **Grand Rapids Area Schools** agrees to implement the following requirements:

- **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of families in all of the schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level Family Involvement Plan meets the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will incorporate this district-wide Family Involvement Plan into its district policy.
- In carrying out the Title I family involvement requirements, to the extent practical, **Grand Rapids Area Schools** 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, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If **Grand Rapids Area Schools' 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 the Minnesota Department of Education.

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- **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will involve the families of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parent involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

Grand Rapids Area Schools will inform parents and parent organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parent Information and Resource Center in Minnesota (i.e., Minnesota Parent Center, Bloomington, MN) through their annual Elementary Handbooks.

PART II. DISTRICT PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development/revision of its district parent involvement plan:
    - Title I School Advisory Family Committee will review the Title I Family Involvement Plan annually for revisions.

2. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will involve families in the joint development of the district plan, review, and improvement:
    - Each Title I School will review their School-wide Title I Plan annually through their Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) which includes staff, parents, and administration.
    - Pertinent data points from the parent survey with parents through an annual Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness report that will be available on our district's website. Full survey results are available upon request to the district Teaching and Learning Office.
    - Following Title I regulations, parents would be informed through written communication that our district has been identified as a focus or priority school and also provided with the details of the improvement plan. Review and comment opportunities will be included.
    - Staff development opportunities are promoted throughout the year for enhancing strategies toward parent involvement activities. This could include but is not limited to PLCs, Title I Workshops, and School, Family, Community PTC meetings.

3. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will, with involvement of Title I schools, plan and implement effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
    - Newspaper Releases (newspaper, TV)
    - Maintain Grand Rapids Area Schools district and schools websites and other social media venues
    - Maintain access to student data through the Parent Portal
    - School Board Meetings and Minutes published in newspaper

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- November Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Development of Parent-School Compact
- Development and annual updating of Parent/Student Handbook
- Annual CACR Report highlighting Title programming
- Distribution of MCA parent information is disseminated in a variety of ways through mailings and at fall conferences

4. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent involvement to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** 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 standards
- the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Title I how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

The following activities will build a parent's capacity to support the academic goals of their child:

- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Campus Messenger as a school to home communication tool
- Assessment Information (FastBridge, STAR, MCA)
- Parent-School Compacts
- Newsletters and e-newsletters
- Parent letters
- DARRT Teams (response to interventions)
- Coordination of Parent Teacher Committee meetings to support organization development and information sharing between school and home

B. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** 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 parent involvement, by participating in such activities as:

- Provide appropriate handouts
- Support Parent Involvement strategies as part of improvement strategies
- Support Parent Teacher Committee(s)

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- Literacy and Science Nights and Family Support classes offered through Community Education
- Encourage Volunteerism

C. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** 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 contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs that build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Encourage Volunteerism
- Provide professional development opportunities related to parent/family involvement
- Provide professional literature and research
- Encourage Professional Learning Communities to look at Family Engagement strategies as components of student achievement

D. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with district Early Childhood programs to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- Host Kindergarten Round-Up
- Community Education will provide family support and education classes
- Promote Early Childhood screenings for all children at age 3

E. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** 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:

- Conduct Parent/Teacher conferences
- Invite parents into classrooms/school for presentations and/or assist and work with children on learning activities
- District calendar of events
- Utilize local media outlets to advertise events
- School and classroom newsletters
- Family events
- Open Houses at schools

5. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will take the following actions to involve parents in evaluating the effectiveness of this parent involvement plan to improve the quality of its Title I schools by:

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- Conduct and track annual Parent Survey
- Track number of participants in Parent activities
- Track of volunteers in schools
- Documentation of verbal and written feedback, etc.

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PART III ADOPTION

The **Grand Rapids Area Schools** Parental Involvement Plan has been developed/revised jointly with, and agreed on with, families of students participating in Title I programs. This Family Involvement Plan was reviewed by **Grand Rapids Area Schools** on **10/23/25**, and will be in effect for 2025-2026. **Grand Rapids Area Schools** will have this District Title I Parent Involvement Plan available to all families of participating Title I children on the District's website.

_____

(Signature of Title 1 Authorized Representative)

11/25/25

(Date)

The members of the Schools, Families, Community partnerships committee involved with the development of this document:

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