



★ **Michigan City**
Area Schools

Opportunity ★ Excellence ★ Pride



District Office for Title I Services

making sure every student has a chance to make a difference in the world!

2026 – 2027

Title I Parent Handbook

Krueger Middle School

2001 Springland Ave.
Michigan City, IN 46360
219.873.2061

Kerchell Rolling, Principal
John Boyd, Assistant Principal
Bonnie Ziesmer, Secretary

Parent Involvement Policy

Krueger Middle School, a diverse learning community committed to excellence, will ensure our graduates are responsible and productive participants in an evolving global society by focusing on:

- *Learning as a continuous experience of excitement, opportunity, and achievement*
- *Clear goals and high expectations for students' success*
- *Supportive families and community*
- *Staff with pride and purpose leading by positive example*
- *A student prepared for and enthusiastic about his or her future.*

1. Krueger Middle School will hold an annual parent seminar early in the school year at a convenient time to present:

- Title I participation and requirements
- Environmental theme focus
- PBIS process, 100% choice
- MTSS
- The forms of assessment used to measure academic success and progress.
- Description and explanation of curricula to be used.

2. The following items will be distributed to parents:

- KMS student/parent handbook
- KMS volunteer forms
- Home School Compacts
- Parent Notices as they apply to Title I
- School Calendar of Events for KMS

3. Krueger Middle School will provide the parents of participating Title I students with timely information in a language and format easily understood in the following ways:

- Registration packets
- Teacher notes, phone calls, or emails
- District and school websites
- School Messenger
- Use of interpreter as needed
- Quarterly report cards
- Counselor
- Special Education School Social Worker

4. Krueger Middle School will foster positive and productive family partnerships through:

- Strategies from school improvement plan
- Parent seminars - Title I Meeting
- Grade-level team meetings with parents on an as-needed basis
- Providing opportunities for decision-making input related to the education of their children through school and district committees
- Staff meetings focusing on how to build positive family partnerships
- Fostering and encouraging good attendance
- Various Awards Nights

- Student-led conferences in Fall and Spring

5. Krueger Middle School Families will in turn foster positive and productive partnership with the school through:

- Supporting their students' learning by: Ensuring good attendance, monitoring homework completion, monitoring social networking and electronic game playing, encouraging positive use of extra-curricular time, and encouraging reading at home
- Supporting their students' learning by regularly checking their child's attendance and grade data through PowerSchool
- Volunteering at school
- Participating in school activities
- Communicating with school staff
- Being positive advocates for the education of their children

6. Materials and training will be offered to parents on how they can assist, encourage and improve their child's academic achievement, including:

- Meetings and communication with Teachers
- Web-based tools: IXL, IM
- Special Education School Social Worker
- PowerSchool Grades

7. Krueger Middle School will coordinate and integrate parent and community involvement with local agencies, schools, and other public programs, including:

- Purdue University Northwest
- Safe Harbor
- Dunebrook
- Swanson Center
- Michigan City Police Department & Probation
- KMS Environmental Campus Partner Connections
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources-Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program
- LaPorte County Soil & Water Conservation District
- CBB-Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC
- Lowe's
- The Pottawatomie Audubon Society
- Trail Creek Watershed
- Save the Dunes
- Shirley Heinze Land Trust
- The Field Museum of Natural History
- City Forester, Michigan City
- Indiana University Northwest-Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring Inventory (NIRMI)
- Salvation Army

8. Krueger Middle School will communicate to the District any parent concerns regarding the Title I program. The Title I Department will receive the comments and respond to any suggestion or concern as timely and practically as possible.

Title I Home – School Compact

Families and schools must work together to help students achieve high academic standards. Through a process that includes teachers, families, and students the following are agreed upon rules and responsibilities that we as partners will carry out to support student success in school and life.

Staff Pledge

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Promote learning as a continuous experience of excitement, opportunity, and achievement.
- Set clear goals and high expectations for students' success.
- Be supportive of families and community.
- Have pride and purpose and lead by positive example.
- Prepare students for the future and foster enthusiasm about learning.

Student Pledge

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Students are LIFELONG LEARNERS who set and pursue their goals for personal growth.
- Students COMMUNICATE effectively through their development of speaking.
- Students are CRITICAL THINKERS who are capable of solving problems using a variety of tools.
- Students work COLLABORATIVELY using effective leadership and group skills within diverse settings.
- Students are ETHICAL and MORAL CITIZENS who consistently demonstrate self-discipline, courage, honesty, compassion and appreciation for and tolerance of diversity.
- Students CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITY, volunteering energies and talents, to improve the quality of life within their community.
- Students are HEALTH CONSCIOUS INDIVIDUALS whose lifestyles reflect a concern for the health, safety and well-being of themselves and others.
- Students accept RESPONSIBILITY for their actions.
- Students apply ACADEMIC SKILLS to life situations.

Family/Parent Pledge

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Provide a quiet time and place for homework and monitor social networking on a regular basis.
- Ensure that my child reads every day.
- Know my child's friends.
- Ensure that my child attends school every day and gets adequate sleep, regular medical attention and proper nutrition.
- Regularly monitor my child's progress in school.
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions about my child's education.
- Attend student led conferences.
- Communicate the importance of education and learning to my child.

Student

Teacher

Parent/Guardian



Parenting Resource Center for the Family

Indiana's Parenting Center offers resources for parents and their children. When parents need to reach out for help/advice, resources are available.

ParentingCenter.com is dedicated to helping families find parenting information.

From family support to education, ParentingCenter.com offers advice for family and community. This website offers state-by-state resources. For information on

Indiana's parenting resources please use the following link:

<http://www.parentingcenter.com/state/indiana.html>



What We Do

ParentingCenter.com provides many different resources surrounding your child's education, health and wellbeing, as well as resources for fun, family friendly activities in the area! The following are just a few of the areas that are covered on ParentingCenter.com:

- Many different educational tools
- Family support links
- Health and medical resources
- Family/Parenting Articles
- Child care resources

For more information please use the following link: <http://www.parentingcenter.com/>

Sponsors:

- ❖ **YMCA** – *We Build Strong Kids, Families*
- ❖ **Ford Motor Company**
- ❖ **Eli Lilly**
- ❖ **Disney Mobile**

Additional information for parents, including school achievement data, is available on the **Indiana Department of Education Website**, www.doe.in.gov. If you do not have internet access at home, your school will provide internet access, or you may visit the Michigan City Public Library.

If you have further questions concerning the Indiana Partnerships Center or parent involvement, please call your child's school or:

MCAS District Title I Office 408 S Carroll Ave Michigan City, IN 46360 219.873.2000	Krueger Middle School 2001 Springland Ave. Michigan City, IN 46360 219.873.2061 Kerchell Rolling, Principal John Boyd, Assistant Principal Bonnie Ziesmer, Secretary	Parenting Center.com 904 N. Line Street Loogootee, IN 47553 812-295-8491 https://www.parentingcenter.com/
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Title I Parent Involvement Policy

The Michigan City Area Schools Board will follow the parental policy guidelines in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015*.

Michigan City Area Schools Title I program provides all students with fair, equal, and meaningful opportunities leading to a high-quality education and increased student achievement and parent involvement.

Policy Guidelines

1. Families will have an opportunity to review the School-wide Title I plan and make suggestions for improvement. MCAS will do this by assisting each Title I school:
 - In arranging annual Title I meetings that inform families of and provide time to make suggestions regarding:
 - Title I program goals
 - Instructional strategies and curriculum
 - Assessments used
 - Expected student proficiency levels
 - Provide parents with materials and training to improve their child's achievement.
 - Families' rights to request information about the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals in their school. (Section 1119)
 - Annual meetings will be held at various times convenient for parent participation.
 2. MCAS will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other necessary support to Title I schools as they plan and implement effective parent involvement activities focused on improving student achievement and school performance by:
 - Providing training on how to build effective parent engagement activities focused on improving student achievement and relationships with families through various resources which may include:
 - PowerSchool training to navigate the site to obtain grades, attendances, schedule, and behavioral issues
 - Provide parents with technological information to guide them through the MCAS website as well as the communication portal, Peachjar
 - Recommending family literature and materials to enhance parental engagement in the home
 - Take-home books, academic materials, and other resources specific to their child's academic level
 - Supporting schools in developing a welcoming environment for parents.
 - Professional development focusing on developing positive family partnership and parental engagement for all staff
 - Continue to research best practices in positive parental engagement
 - Enhancing our external partnerships that support students, families, and staff
 - Ensuring that information is sent home in a language and format that parents can understand.
 3. In order to enhance the schools' and families' capacity to form a strong partnership and increase student achievement, MCAS will support each Title I school by:
 - Providing guidance to Title I schools in assisting families in understanding:
 - Indiana State Academic Standards;
 - Their child's progress;
 - How to work with educators to improve their child's achievement.
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- Encouraging teachers to create positive relationships with parents.
 - Scheduling parent/teacher conferences to support parents in understanding their child's progress
 - Encouraging schools to provide meaningful materials and information that promotes student achievement.
 - Providing opportunities for families to participate in district and school-level decision-making as it relates to their child
 - Coordinating and integrating Head Start, state-run preschool programs, and English as a new language instructional programs;
 - Ensuring that schools provide reasonable support for parent involvement as requested by parents.
 - Ensuring that parents are involved in revising the School-Parent Involvement Policy, Home-School Compact, and School-wide Plan.
4. Coordinate with Head Start and other community-based preschools to align our parental involvement strategies through activities to include but not limited to:
- Kindergarten Round-Up and Kindergarten Countdown
5. MCAS with parents, teachers, and principals will annually review the Title I program and the effectiveness of the Parent Involvement Policy.
- In collaboration with parents we will work to:
 - Identify and minimize barriers which may limit family participation
 - Identify strategies that lead to more effective and increased family involvement and engagement in decision-making.
 - Collaborate and revise the District and School Parent Involvement Policies annually (section 1112)
 - Assist in developing and recommending suggestions for the district Title I Program. (Section 1116)
 - Collaborate in developing the Parent Involvement Policy.
6. In collaboration with schools we will ensure that parents are involved in revising the school Parent Involvement Policy and Home School Compact annually.
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Parents' Right to Know & Highly Qualified Teachers and Assistants

At the beginning of each school year, your child's school corporation will provide you (at your request and in a timely manner) information regarding the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s), including the following information:

1. Whether your child's teacher has met the State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level and subject area in which the teacher is providing instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher, any other graduate certification for degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification for degree.
4. Information on the level of achievement of your child in each of the State academic assessments.
5. Timely notice that your child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who is not highly qualified.
6. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Remember This:

- The notice and information provided to parents shall be in an understandable and uniform format and provided in a language that parents can understand.
- This information may be obtained at the beginning of the school year.
- The school corporation must provide this information in a timely manner at the parent's request.

A request can be made by contacting the District Office for Title I Services by phone:
219-873-2000

Title I School-Wide Designation

All K-8 Michigan City Area Schools are Title I served schools and have received School Wide Plan (SWP) designation through the Indiana Department of Education. School faculty, staff and parents developed a plan to meet the ten components of the School Wide Plan at each of the district Title I Schools.

The Components of a School Wide Plan are:

1. A comprehensive needs assessment of the whole school.
 2. Implementation of school wide strategies that:
 - Provide opportunities for all children to meet proficient and advanced levels of student academic achievement.
 - Use effective methods and instructional strategies that are based on scientifically based research that:
 - Strengthens the core academic program,
 - Increases the amount of learning time,
 - Includes strategies for serving underserved populations,
 - Includes strategies to address the needs of all children in the school, but particularly low achieving children and those at risk or not meeting state standards,
 - Addresses how the school will determine if needs of those children have been met,
 - Is consistent with and is designed to implement state and local improvement plans.
 3. Highly qualified teachers in all core content area classes.
 4. High quality and on-going professional development for teachers, principals and paraprofessionals.
 5. Strategies to attract high-quality, highly qualified teachers to this school.
 6. Strategies to increase parental involvement, including:
 - 6a. A description of how the school will provide individual academic assessment results to parents.
 - 6b. Strategies to involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of the school wide plan.
 7. Plans for assisting preschool children in the transition from early childhood programs such as Head Start or state-run preschool programs.
 8. Opportunities and expectations for teachers to be included in the decision making related to the use of academic assessment results leading to the improvement of student achievement.
 9. Activities and programs at the school level to ensure that students having difficulty mastering proficient and advanced levels of academic achievement are provided effective, timely additional assistance.
 10. Coordination and integration of federal, state and local funds; and resources such as in-kind services and program components.
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Title I Complaint Policy

What is a Complaint?

A signed written statement that includes: 1) an allegation that a requirement related to Michigan City Area Schools has been violated; and 2) information that supports the allegation.

Who May Complain?

Any parent, teacher, or other concerned individual(s), or organization(s) may file a complaint.

All complaints must:

- Be written or typed;
- Be signed by the person or agency representative filing the complaint and include contact information;
- Specify the requirement of law or regulation being violated regarding the provision of Title I services and the related issue, problem, and/or concern;
- Contain information/evidence supporting the complaint; and,
- State the nature of the corrective action desired.

Complaint Procedure

1. Receiving Complaints: Complaints should be formally registered with the Michigan City Area Schools Office of Title I located at 408 S. Carroll Ave, Michigan City, IN 46360
 2. Investigating Complaints: Upon receipt of the written complaint, the LEA will investigate the complaint within 10 business days.
 3. Resolving Complaints: The LEA will resolve the complaint within 15 business days.
 4. Appealing Complaints: If the LEA fails to resolve the complaint or fails to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the complainant, the complainant can appeal to the Indiana Department of Education's Title I Grants and Support division.
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