

Dracut Title I Schools

Parent and Family Engagement Plan



What is Title I?

Title I, Part A of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to districts and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. The priorities of Title I are to:

1. Strengthen the core program in schools and provide academic and/or support services to low-achieving students at the preschool, elementary, middle, and high school levels;
2. Provide evidence-based programs that enable participating students to achieve the learning standards of the state curriculum frameworks;
3. Elevate the quality of instruction by providing eligible staff with substantial opportunities for professional development; and,
4. Involve parents/guardians of participating public and private school children as active partners in their children's education at school through open, meaningful communication, training, and, as appropriate, inclusion in decision-making processes.

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Dracut Public Schools has developed this Parent and Family Engagement Plan that establishes the district's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and guides the strategies and resources that strengthen school and parent partnerships in the district's Title I schools.

This plan describes Dracut's commitment to engage families in the education of their children and to build the capacity in its Title I schools to implement family engagement strategies and activities designed to achieve the district and student academic achievement goals. The District will work with its Title I schools to ensure that Parent and Family Engagement Plans are effectively implemented.

Dracut Public Schools will engage parents and families in Title I school-wide programs in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication addressing student achievement and ensuring that parents and family members:

- play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
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- are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education
 - are full partners in their child's education
 - are included, as appropriate, in decision-making to assist in the education of their child.

Dracut will engage parents and families in Title I school-wide programs in the joint planning and development of the District's inclusive Title I Family Engagement Plan plan by engaging families in the following activities:

- An Annual Meeting at each Title I school where parents are invited to participate and provide suggestions and ideas to improve the district's inclusive Parent and Family Engagement Plan for the upcoming school year. The district and schools will use the results of the Annual Review to address any identified barriers to parental participation; to meet the needs of families to help their children learn, and to identify successful parent and family engagement strategies.
- Developing, implementing, and reviewing of the School-Parent Compact, which is an agreement that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.
- Conducting an annual parent survey that encourages parents to provide valuable feedback regarding the parent and family engagement activities and programs. Survey results will be used to design strategies to improve effective family engagement, remove possible barriers to parent participation, and revise its parent and family engagement plans.
- Building capacity for school, parent and family engagement by:
 - Providing parents and family members with information on state standards, assessments, requirements of Title I, monitoring their child's progress, and working with educators
 - Providing materials, resources, and training to help parents and families work with their children to improve academic achievement

Parents are welcome to submit comments and feedback regarding the plan at any time to the District Title I Coordinator or by submitting written comments to their child's school. All feedback received is considered in the planning process for the school year. The District inclusive Parent and Family Engagement Plan is posted on district and school websites, distributed during the annual Title I school parent meeting, and made available upon request in the schools' offices.