

Title I District-Level Parent Involvement Policy

The Sanford School Committee endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages regular participation by parents/guardians in all aspects of the District's Title I Program. For the purpose of this policy, "parents/guardians" includes all other family members involved in supervising the child's schooling.

I. District-Level Parent Involvement Policy

In compliance with Federal law, the Sanford School Department has developed this written policy for parents of children participating in the school system's Title I programs.

Annually, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to participate in the evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent involvement policy, and to use the evaluations to design strategies for more effective parent involvement and suggest policy revisions.

II. School-Level Parent Involvement Plan and Home School Compact

As required by law, each school in the Sanford School Department that receives Title I funds shall develop a **School-Level Parent Involvement Plan**, including a "**Home School Compact**" outlining the manner in which parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement in meeting state standards. The **School-Level Plan** and **Home School Compact** will be distributed to all parents/guardians of children participating in the District's Title I programs. In addition, the **Home School Compact** will be displayed as a large poster at each of the schools for everyone to see.

The **School-Level Parent Involvement Plans** and **Home School Compacts** shall:

- A. Describe Sanford's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment to assist students in meeting the State's academic achievement standards.
- B. Indicate the ways in which parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring school attendance, homework completion, supervising television watching, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education and use of extra-curricular time.
- C. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an ongoing basis with, at minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

III. Parent Involvement Meetings

The Title I school personnel shall convene an annual meeting, to which all parents/guardians of eligible children shall be invited, to inform them about participation in Title I, and to involve them in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs and parent involvement policy. This meeting is held annually in June in each Title IA school.

In addition to the annual meeting, another meeting shall be held at an alternate time of the day and/or evening convenient to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs. Each fall the participating schools hold an introductory meeting for all parents/guardians of eligible students and provide parents with:

- A. Information the schools provide under Title I;

- B. A description and explanation of the curriculum at each school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency level students are expected to meet;
- C. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
- D. The opportunity to submit comments to the Superintendent or his/her designee should the parent/guardian be dissatisfied with the Title I program.

Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent/guardian attendance at meetings through the payment of transportation and childcare costs.

IV. Parent Relations

Parents/guardians of children identified for participation in a Title I program shall receive from the building principal and Title I staff an explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of services to be provided. Parents will receive regular reports on their child's progress and opportunities to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers. Parents will also receive training, materials, and suggestions regarding how they can assist in the education of their children after school hours.

V. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for ensuring that Sanford's Title I plan, programs, and parent involvement policies comply with applicable law and regulations, and for developing administrative procedures, as needed, to implement this policy.

Legal reference: 20 U.S.C. §6318

Adoption date: June 20, 2005

Effective date: June 20, 2005

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