

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT DISTRICTWIDE POLICY

Title I Handbook-Parent and Family Engagement Policy

It is the policy of Logan-Magnolia Community Schools that parents and family members of participating children shall have the opportunity to be involved jointly in the development of the district plan and in the district's review process for the purpose of school improvement.

Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance, and other supports necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions; and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. In spring 2019, a committee including parents, teachers, and administration reviewed the proposed policies and practices and made recommendations for this jointly developed and agreed upon written policy. This policy is distributed to parents of participating Title I children, along with the School-Parent compact in a language parents will understand, at the beginning of and throughout the school year as necessary. It is also posted on the school website for the public.
2. The same individuals jointly developed a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the school staff, and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve our local high standards. It is distributed with this Title I Handbook-Parent Involvement Policy.
3. One Title I parent meeting will be held in the fall to inform parents/families about the program requirements and their right to be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including the Parent Involvement Policy provided in a language the parents will understand.
4. Additional meetings with flexible times shall be held during the school year, such as parent-teacher conferences at the request of parents.
5. Parents are given technical assistance and support in understanding the Title

I requirements, standards, and assessments, through the annual meetings and parent-teacher conferences, in addition to other requested meetings.

6. Parents will be provided with information about understanding State academic standards, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, the expected proficiency levels, and curriculum through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through report cards. This may include how parents can monitor student progress and work with teachers to help improve their child's achievement levels. School materials may be provided to assist with this, and teachers may share technology resources with parents.

7. Parents are informed of and involved with their child's participation in the Title I program. They also are informed about the curriculum, instructional objectives, and methods used in the program at the annual parent meeting. Teachers may also send information in a language parents will understand through classroom newsletters, the district website, report cards, notes or emails to parents, and phone call to parents. An explanation of the school's academic performance profile with forms of academic assessments and expected performance levels will be also shared.

8. The Title I program provides opportunities for parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of their children both at home and at school. Parents are given help monitoring their student's progress and provided assistance on how to participate in decisions related to their child's education. The school also provides reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents. Parents are encouraged to participate in their child's education. Individual parent-teacher conferences or other meetings will be held upon request at a convenient time for parents . Parents and families are encouraged to participate in Teacher Assistance Team meetings for their children, the Family Literacy Night in the fall, Teacher Support Organization meetings held in the school, student Awards Day, Open House, Track and Field Day, Preschool Parent Night, Room/Party Parents, Grandparents' Day, and the Preschool Parent Committee.

9. The school continues to coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, the parent involvement policy and other programs and activities within the district.

10. Parent recommendations are encouraged and responded to in a timely manner. Verbal or written responses will be given for recommendations. Parent surveys are distributed in the spring for recommendations involving parents and improving the Title I program and Parent Involvement Policy.

11. Teacher certification and qualifications, including highly qualified information, is available for parent review upon request in the school office. The district will notify parents of students participating in the Title I program in the event that their child is being taught by a non-qualified substitute teacher for four or more consecutive weeks.

12. An annual evaluation of the Title I –Parent Involvement Policy shall be conducted in the spring to determine its effectiveness. Findings will be used to design strategies for more effective parent and family involvement and revision of policies with the members of the committee including parents.

13. The district will work to find ways to work cooperatively with other Federal, State, and local programs. Our local program offers support to students who are food insecure over the weekends. Our Title I program is a part of our comprehensive MTSS framework for meeting students' needs.

Title I Program Objectives

The objectives of the Lo-Ma Title I program are:

1. To improve a child's self-image.
2. To promote and develop interest in reading in each child.
3. To raise the reading and fluency levels of each student so their achievement level will be raised in all academic areas.
4. All instruction will be designed to meet the needs of each student through small group or individual instruction.

Title I Student Eligibility

A student's eligibility for Title I is based on teacher referral. Referrals may be made at anytime during the year. These are the standards for referral:

1. A student is below grade level benchmarks on the FAST universal screening in reading.
2. A student is below the average in reading achievement in the general education classroom.
3. Teacher judgment and parental input is also considered.

The Title I program is supplemental in that each child also participates in the core reading instruction in the classroom. The Title I groups are kept small and each child works on the skills that he or she needs. The child will be given a maximum of 30 minutes for each group session during which a variety of materials will be used to strengthen each weakness area.

Discontinuation of Students in the Title I Program

If a child shows improvement and meets the grade level benchmark requirements (for 2 consecutive testing periods), and does not need the supplemental help of Title I any longer, the child may be discontinued from the program. The classroom teacher and the Title I teacher will discuss the student's test scores and classroom progress, and then make a decision. The teachers will call, email, or send a note to the parents of the child informing them of the student's discontinuation from the program.

Providing all Logan-Magnolia Community School District's children with equal access to quality education is the primary purpose. It is crucial that all partners have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this purpose. This cooperative effort will ensure improved academic achievement for all students.