# TITLE I PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Part I General Expectations

Whitefield Public Schools agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

* The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with the Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1119 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
* Consistent with Section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school- level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
* The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.
* In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
* If the LEA plans for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, 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 State Department of Education.
* The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved to parental involvement are spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
* The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with the definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring

* 1. that parents plan an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
  2. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school:
  3. that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their Child;
  4. the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA.
* The State PIRC does not currently exist. If a State PIRC becomes available, the school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the *Parental Information and Resource Center* (PIRC).

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF METHOD USED BY DISTRICT TO IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

## Whitefield Public Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan as required:

* Parents will review the policy at an annual Title I committee meetings(s). Suggestions and/or concerns will be communicated to the Superintendent for possible revisions.
* The policy will be posted on the district web site with a link for parents to review.

1. Whitefield Public School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement as required:

* Parents will serve on applicable site and district committees.
* District and school report cards will be available to parents on the School District website; a copy will be available at each site and on the district website.
* Parents will receive individual student assessment reports regarding their child's mastery of student achievement mandates.

1. Whitefield Public School will provide the necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

* The district will build an effective communication partnership with the parent regarding their child's school and teacher. This will include an understanding of the school climate, qualifications of each teacher, academic initiatives, available programs and federal mandates.
* Committee meetings will be held annually to review and update parental involvement needs. The district will provide space and time to hold the meetings.

1. Whitefield Public School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parents involvement strategies under the following other programs: Parents as Teachers, Head Start, and state- operated preschool programs by:

* To coordinate and integrate the parental involvement strategies the Special Services Director will continue to be a member of the committee *Parents* as *Teachers.* Furthermore, the Special Services Director is the liaison for parents of students entering from Head Start and chairperson of the Federal Programs Committee. Strategies will be shared by the Director among the various programs.

1. Whitefield Public School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use its findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

* Data will be collected from parents and staff. This data will be a part of the information available to review at the annual meeting. An interpreter will be available and the data will be in alternative formats on an as needed basis. Other data will be achievement test results, NCLB district/site results, minutes from previous parent involvement activities, (if available) parent survey results, and any survey such as the *Nine Essential Elements.* This information will be compared and used to evaluate program effectiveness.
* The district will schedule a meeting annually to review, and evaluate the data collected and its impact on the parental involvement policy. Parent representative(s) will attend from the Title I program school.

Whitefield Public School will build the schools’ and parent’s capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

* 1. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A 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 content standards,
    - the state’s student academic achievement standards,
    - the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
    - the requirements of Part A,
    - how to monitor their child’s progress, and
    - how to work with educators:

This assistance may be provided through the distribution of newsletters, during scheduled parent conferences, distribution of brochures, scheduled Title I meeting(s), and the district web site.

* 1. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:
     + Parents will receive assistance and training at parent conferences, scheduled site and district meetings. There will be scheduled literacy and math activities to help parents improve their children's academic achievement. The goals and objectives which were developed by the Title I site committee will be posted for staff and parents to read.

c The school district will, with the assistance of its 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 of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parents programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

* The school district will provide assistance to educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in appropriate activities that engage parents as partners and increase parental involvement. When appropriate, professional development will be provided to increase staff awareness of the value of parental involvement. Staff will be trained to record their communication with parents using *Parent Involvement Logs.*

1. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parents involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Parents as Teachers, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
   * *Parents as Teachers* is an active program in the Whitefield School District. The Special Services Director and the Title I site Principal are active members of this program. Information and activities at the site and in the PAT program are integrated and coordinated. Information concerning parental involvement is available to the PAT coordinator and any Head Start personnel in the area.
2. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that 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:

* Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is available to parents in an understandable format. It may be listed on the district web site, sent home via a flyer or newsletter with the student, be in another language (primarily Spanish), posted at the site and/or listed in the Parent Handbook.
* Goals and objectives of the program will be posted within the Title I site for staff and parents to read.

## PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The school district may, in consultation with parents, develop other activities designed to build parents’ capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities as required:

* as needed, the Whitefield district may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals

, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;

* to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children’s education, the district will provide childcare for parents during the meeting, or arrange school meetings at a variety of time, or conduct phone conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school; and
* will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 118 as parents may request.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.