

District: Choctaw County School District
Section: L - Organizational Relations
Policy Code: LAA - Title I Parental Engagement

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

NOTE: Schools receiving federal ESSA funds are required to have a parent engagement policy. This sample policy can be used as the basis for the joint development of a policy, as required by the federal legislation. This policy cannot be the district's policy without some parental engagement in its development at the local level.

The Choctaw Board of Education endorses the parent engagement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents in all aspects of the program. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school, and community. In this policy, the word "parent" also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child's education.

Pursuant of federal law, this district will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parent engagement policy. A meeting of the parents of participating Title 1 students will be held annually to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program.

Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation, and evaluation of the program for the next school year and to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. Parents will be encouraged to attend the meeting and to become involved.

In addition to the required annual meeting, a flexible number of meetings shall be offered at various times of the day and/or evenings, for the parents of children participating in the Title I program. Notices will be sent to the parents and articles will appear in the local newspaper advising parents and interested persons of the meetings. These meetings shall be used to provide parents with:

1. Information about programs provided under Title I
2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
4. The opportunity to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program, to the district level. Title 1 funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

Parents will be advised of their children's progress on a regular basis. Opportunities will be provided for the parents to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their children's progress. Parents will also receive information and training that will assist them in helping their children at home and at school.

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents of children served in the program a "School-Parent Compact" outlining the manner in which parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement in meeting state standards. The School- Parent Compact shall:

Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling children in the Title I program to meet the state's academic achievement standards;

Indicate the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, monitoring television watching, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time; and

Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an on-going basis, with at a minimum, parent-teacher conference, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

NOTE: District with more than one school participating in a Title I program may wish to consider the establishment of a district-wide parent advisory council.

LEGAL REF.: P. L. 103-382 (Improving America's Schools Act)
CROSS REF.: Policies LA - Parental Involvement
LAA-R - Title I Parent Involvement Regulations

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