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DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The Board of Education endorses the parent involvement 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.

The Andes Central School District and families will jointly develop a parent and family engagement policy. This policy will be distributed to all families within the school as well as being made available to the local community. It will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. In addition, families will be asked to participate in the joint development of each school's school wide program plans.

A meeting of the parents will be held each fall to explain the goals and purposes of Title I programming as well as their right to be involved. Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation, and evaluation of the program as well as the opportunity 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 annual meeting, efforts will be made to meet with parents and other interested parties on a more flexible basis throughout the year to discuss program options should this be more convenient. These meetings shall be used to provide:

1. Information about programs provided under Title 1;
2. Descriptions and explanations of the curriculum in use, review of proposed curriculum changes, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet, as well as the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards;
3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children;
4. Opportunities to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program to the district level; and
5. Information in easily understandable language allowing for comments regarding the individual building school wide, and District level plans.

Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation, childcare costs or home visits as it relates to parental involvement.

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Parents will be advised of their children’s progress on a regular basis. Opportunities will be provided for the parents 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.

The District will provide training and materials to staff to build their capacity for parent and family engagement. Every attempt will be made to coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs with other federal state and local programs.

Each school will 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 compact shall:

1. 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;
2. 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
3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an on-going basis, with at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

Legal References:

References: P.L. 103-382, Improving America's Schools Act of 1994

Cross References: IKAB, Student Progress Reports to Parents
KMA, Relations with Parents Organizations

Adopted: May 11, 2009

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