

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Schools receiving federal ESEA funds are required to have a parent involvement 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 involvement in its development at the local level.

The Amber-Pocasset Board of Education endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents of Title I eligible children 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 to federal law, the district will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parent involvement policy.

A meeting of the parents of participating Title I 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, at least three (3) additional parent meetings shall be held, at various times of the day and/or evenings, for 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 I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

The parents of children identified to participate in Title I programs shall receive from the school principal and Title I staff an explanation of the reasons supporting each child's selection for the program, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of the services to be provided. 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.

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT (Cont.)

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 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.

The following policies of Amber-Pocasset School District concerning teacher and parent involvement in the Title I program have been adopted. This is in compliance with Title I laws and regulations. The school district shall invite all parents of eligible children to discuss with them the programs and activities to be paid for from Title I funds, inform them of their right to consult in the design and implementation of Title I projects, solicit their comments about the program, and provide them an opportunity to establish mechanisms for maintain ongoing communications with other parents, teachers and agency officials. Amber-Pocasset School District shall provide meeting space for a Parent Advisory Council meeting, materials and information concerning Title I laws, regulations and instructional program.

Parent Meetings

There will be a public meeting in late August or first of September to provide information in regard to the Title I program. This information will include:

1. The selection process of Title I students
2. Instructional objectives
3. Curriculum and
4. Evaluation.

Parent Relations

Activities to ensure that the parents of Title I pupils being served have an adequate opportunity to participate in the Title I project shall be:

1. Notifying each child's parents in a timely manner the child has been selected to participate in Title I and why the child has been selected.
2. Informing each child's parent of specific instructional objectives for the child.
3. Reporting to each child's parents on the child's progress.
4. Establishing conferences between individual parents and teachers.
5. Providing materials and suggestions to parents to help them promote the education of their children at home.

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT (Cont.)

6. Providing timely information concerning the Title I Program, including program plans and evaluations.
7. Soliciting parents' suggestions in the planning, development and operation of the program.
8. Providing timely responses to parents' communication.
9. Appointing teachers and principals parent coordinators of the Title I program.
10. Establishing a Parent Advisory Council.

Documentation

Each parent or guardian who has a child in the Title I program will sign a copy of this policy.

REFERENCE: P. L. 103-382, Improving America's Schools Act
P. L. 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

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

*THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY THE
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT.*