

# TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

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HILLDALE PUBLICSCHOOLS



## **TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

The Hilldale 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:

### Information about programs provided under Title I;

1. 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;
2. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
3. The opportunity to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program, to the district level.
4. 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.

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 class room, 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.

It is the policy of Hilldale Public School District's Title I program to encourage active participation of parents and those in the role of parents as required in Title I, Part A, Section 1118. This policy includes a commitment to guide/reinforce/increase parent involvement by building a strong partnership emphasizing the shared responsibilities among students, parents, and faculty. To accomplish this goal, our schools involve parents in the development of the Local Education Agency (LEA) policy and the process of school review and improvement through the following types of involvement activities. This will be achieved through the following types of involvement activities:

- Parental involvement group meetings
- Parent surveys
- Consultation
- Frequently scheduled parent meeting
- Conferences

Parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their teacher(s).

**Objective 1:** The LEA will foster effective parental involvement strategies and support partnerships among schools, parents, and the community to improve student achievement.

*Strategies for reaching objective:*

1. Develop and disseminate district parental involvement policy.
  - Back- to-School Night
  - Parent/Teacher Conferences
2. Conduct an annual meeting to review and update the effectiveness of the Parent Involvement Policy.
3. Reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parent involvement
4. Collaboration with other parental involvement programs such as Community Ed Summer Reading and Math Program and Family Outreach. Establish building level support group facilitated by building Title I teacher.
5. Establish parental involvement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools.
6. Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
7. Ensure Homeless students have access to Title I services if they qualify and use Homeless set aside money to support them.

**Objective 2:** The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement.

*Strategies for reaching objective:*

1. District Parent Involvement policy is disseminated to all Title I teachers to guide the development of Building Parent Involvement policies.
2. During building Title I Back-to-School Nights, inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental involvement policy and their right to be involved.
3. During building Title I Back-to-School Nights, inform parents of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and encourage parents to participate in the PAC at the district and/or building levels.
4. Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
  - Develops a parental involvement policy.
  - Offers flexible meeting times.
  - Provides information to parents about the school's program, including parent information guides.
5. Provide a copy of the School Parent Involvement Policy for each parent. Encourage parents to provide feedback.
6. Provide materials for training to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.

7. Provide newsletters and activities to keep parents updated on current parent/student involvement practices.
8. Encourage parents to visit/volunteer in the classroom.
9. Encourage parent participation in scheduling parent meetings/activities at various times throughout the day/evening.

**Objective 3:** The district will conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater parent participation.

*Strategies for reaching objective:*

1. Develop procedures to document parent participation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; workshop schedules and brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
2. Benchmarking assessments and Title I eligibility criteria are shared with parents at the district and building PAC meetings and goal setting conferences. Parent input is recorded in PAC meeting notes. Title I staff includes parent input when making decisions about how to best meet the needs of Title I students and their families.
3. Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.
4. Use findings from evaluation process to:
  - Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revisions.
  - Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement.
5. Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community. Summary of the results of the parent survey is posted on district Title I and building Title I web pages.