

Mountain View School District

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN

Updated: September 21, 2012

In accordance with Act 306 of 2003, an Act to Require Public Schools to Create a Parental Involvement Plan.

In accordance with federal law, the Mountain View School District and the parents of students participating in Title I district programs have jointly developed the following parent involvement policy.

General Expectations

The Mountain View School District 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 Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1118 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 and will provide information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan 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% of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95% of the 1% 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 this 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

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

*(C) 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;
and*

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA.

The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the existence and purpose of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the state as well as the Parent Resource Center (PIE Center) located for our district at Mountain View Elementary.

Involvement with Title I Planning

The district shall hold an annual meeting for parents of students in Title I programs, as well as Title I staff, principals, of schools receiving Title I funds and other interested persons to discuss the Title I program plan, review implementation of the Title I plan, discuss how Title I funds allotted for parent involvement activities shall be used, and invite suggestions for improvement.

District Support for Parent Involvement

The district shall provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in building the capacity for strong parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

This shall include:

- Designation of a Parent Involvement Coordinator;
- Using existing Parent/Teacher groups, School Improvement Teams, surveys, and interviews to provide feedback on all matters related to parent involvement in Title I funded programs;
- Provision of technical assistance and other support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement; and
- Distributing a copy of the Parent Involvement Policy to parents.

The district shall develop and implement a district professional development plan to enhance the skills of teachers, principals, and other staff in:

- Valuing and using the contributions of parents;
- Reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners;
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs;
- Building ties between parents and the school.

Coordination of Parent Involvement Activities with Other District Programs

The district shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Parent/Teacher groups, district 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. This coordination will be accomplished through regularly scheduled meetings of the staff involved in these programs.

Coordination of Parent Involvement Strategies

The district shall coordinate and integrate Title I parent involvement strategies with those of other programs in the district. This is to improve the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, especially by parents who:

- Are economically disadvantaged;
- Have disabilities;
- Have limited English proficiency;
- Have limited literacy;
- Are of any racial or ethnic minority background;
- Are parents of migratory children.

Identification of barriers to greater parental participation will be determined through focus groups at school sites, surveys, and interviews, and other appropriate sources.

The district shall provide to parents, as appropriate, information to help them understand the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor students' academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of students.

This will be accomplished by:

- Providing timely and understandable information concerning the Title I program;
- Communicating with parents through parent/teacher conferences with the classroom teacher and Title I teacher. Conferences will be held once each semester;
- Having staff to arrange to schedule meetings with parents and/or teachers, when requested ;
- Informing parents of students reading below grade level of the instructional needs and objectives for their child at AIP/IRI conferences.

Parent Involvement Activities at the School

Title I schools shall encourage parents to become involved in the activities of the schools by:

- Inviting parents to serve as volunteers at the school;
- Sharing techniques and strategies for promoting and supporting the education of their child at home as well as at school;
- Ensuring the communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful;
- Providing assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, and state and local academic assessments
- Providing materials and training to help parents work with students to improve achievement and foster parental involvement; and
- Welcoming parents and supporting their assistance in the school.

Tassel Time is an internet based resource for parents, students and teachers to use for scholarship research, college and career planning, and high school readiness.

Communication with Parents

All information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities shall be sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

All schools will use the Jupiter Grades program. The Jupiter Grades program allows parents and teachers to communicate. Parents are also able to monitor student progress on the Jupiter Grades program. Other forms of communications may be through e-mail, school letter, and the ALERT NOW automated telephone system.

Annual Evaluation

The district shall conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy. Effectiveness shall be measured in part by improvements in student academic achievement and in school performance.

The evaluation shall address barriers to greater participation by parents, as mentioned earlier. The district shall use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parent involvement and to make changes to this policy, as needed.

The district will provide such other reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents may request.

School Level Title I Parent Involvement Plans

Each school receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with and distribute to parents of students participating in the Title I program a written school-level Title I parent involvement plan agreed upon by the parents in accordance with the requirements of federal law.

The plan shall contain a school-parent compact or agreement that outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students.

