

Parent Involvement:

A Title I Essential



Parent Involvement

- During the most recent audit, the US Department of Education (US ED) noted instances where local school districts in Iowa receiving Title I funds did not ensure that parents were involved in the development and evaluation in required areas.

Parent Involvement Policy

- On file in the district
- Developed jointly with and agreed upon by parents of Title I students
- Written in an understandable format
- Provided in a language parents can understand
- Distributed to parents of all Title I students
- Sent to the Iowa Title I Office annually

Parent Involvement Policy

- Made available to the local community
- Updated yearly to meet the changing needs of parents, students, and the school
- Each Title I building must have its own parent policy
- Have a current date
- Does NOT require school board approval

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- Explain how parents will be involved in
 - The planning, review and improvement of the policy
 - The planning, review and improvement of the Title I program
 - The joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan (if applicable)

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- An annual Title I meeting will be held
 - Inform the parents of the school's participation in Title I
 - Explain the requirements of the Title I program
 - Explain how a student becomes eligible for services and exiting the program
 - Meetings and conferences will be scheduled at different times of the day

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- Title I funds for parent involvement activities
 - Reasonable and necessary expenses
 - Transportation
 - Childcare
 - Home visit expenses
 - Enable parents to participate in meetings and training sessions

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- Parents will be provided with
 - Timely information about the Title I program
 - Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school
 - Description and explanation of the forms of academic assessment used
 - Proficiency levels students are expected to meet

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- The school will provide assistance to parents in understanding
 - Academic content standards
 - Student achievement standards
 - Local academic assessments
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - Ways to work with teachers to improve their child's achievement

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- The school provides materials and training to help parents work with their child
 - To improve achievement
 - To improve literacy
 - To use technology

Parent Involvement Policy Requirements

- The school will provide, if requested by parents, opportunities
 - For regular meetings to formulate suggestions
 - To participate, as appropriate, in educational decisions related to their child

The Parent – School Compact

- Is jointly developed with parents
- Outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students share in the responsibility for improved student achievement

The Parent – School Compact

- Jointly developed with parents
(Title I Parent Advisory group)
- Parents, the school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student achievement
- The means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the district's high standards
- Sent to the Iowa Title I Office annually with a date for the current school year

The Parent – School Compact

- The school's responsibility to provide
 - High quality curriculum and instruction
 - A supportive and effective learning environment
 - Parent – Teacher conferences
 - Frequent reports to parents on their child's progress
 - Opportunities for communication between parents and teachers

The Parent – School Compact

- The ways in which the parents will be responsible for supporting their child's learning by
 - Monitoring attendance
 - Homework completion
 - Positive use of extra curricular time
 - Attending conferences
 - Volunteering in their child's classroom

The Parent – School Compact

- The ways in which the student will be responsible for his/her own learning
 - Specifics not in legislation
 - Input from parents
 - Input from teachers
 - Input from students
 - Blank line for students to add their own ideas

Oh, that is all nice to hear.

- But there's no way that we can do all that stuff!

- How do we make it happen in our school?

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Identify 2-5 key parents
- Parent advisory group/committee
- Meet regularly (monthly at first)

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Give them real jobs
 - Help plan the annual meeting
 - Call parents to invite them to the meeting
 - Help with sign-in sheets, refreshments, handouts
 - Plan/advise on parent education events
 - Review and revise the parent-school compact
 - Review and revise the parent policy
 - Title I program evaluation

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- The Annual Title I Meeting
 - Agenda
 - Inform the parents of the school's participation in Title I
 - Explain the requirements of the Title I program
 - Explain how a student becomes eligible for services and exiting the program
 - Timely information about the Title I program
 - Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school
 - Description and explanation of the forms of academic assessment used
 - Proficiency levels students are expected to meet

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Annual Title I Meeting Logistics
 - Personal invitations (Parent advisory group)
 - Child care (high school cheerleaders or athletes/honor society/other teachers)
 - Sign-In sheets
 - Student involvement
 - Readers Theater
 - Book talks by kids
 - Other

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Parent Education and Support
 - Materials and training to help parents work with their child: to improve achievement, to improve literacy, to use technology
 - Assistance to parents in understanding
 - Academic content standards
 - Student achievement standards
 - Local academic assessments
 - How to monitor their child's progress
 - How to work with teachers to improve their child's achievement

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Family Reading Night
 - Done in conjunction with the rest of the school
 - Focused on Title I families
- Afternoon Reading Break
 - Thirty minutes after school
 - Parent and child activity (game or book)
 - Snack
 - Child care

Making Parent Involvement Happen

- Reading and Technology Night
 - On-line Reading Resources
 - Using the District Website
 - District and grade level expectations
 - On-line grades (?)
 - On-line assignments
 - Sign up for an email account

Documenting Parent Involvement

- Annual Title I Meeting Agenda and Sign-in sheet
- Parent Involvement Policy
- Parent – School Compact
- List of parents involved in revisions

Documenting Parent Involvement

- Documentation
 - Agenda/Topic of Meeting
 - How parents were notified of activity
 - Attendance
 - Activities sent home for families
 - Newsletters with parent education information
 - Title I Annual Meeting Template

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=659&Itemid=1650

IRA Parent Resources

- *Getting Your Child Ready to Read*
- *Supporting Your Beginning Reader*
- *Writing Activities for Young Readers*
- *What Kids Really Want to Read*
- *Reading, Writing, and Technology*
- *Making the Most of Reading Tests*
- *What Is Family Literacy? Getting Involved in Your Child's Literacy Learning*
- <http://www.reading.org/InformationFor/Parents.aspx>
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>

For more information

- LEAs can find guidance on meeting the parent involvement requirements on the DE website at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=659&Itemid=1650#ParentInvolvement

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Parent Involvement



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