



Strategies to Increase Parental Involvement

Ashville Middle School
St. Clair County Board of Education

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Introduction

All Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Schools must complete the following diagnostics: the Stakeholder Feedback Diagnostic, the Parent Involvement Diagnostic, the Coordination of Resource/Comprehensive Budget Diagnostic, and EITHER the Title I Targeted Assistance Diagnostic OR the Title I Schoolwide Diagnostic. Parent Survey must be done annually, but it can be done electronically or by paper.

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1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved.

Annual Title I Meeting

An annual Title I meeting will be conducted at the beginning of each academic year. Parents and teachers will be given information regarding the requirements of being a Title I school and participation in the program.

1% of the system's allocation will be designated to parental involvement. We have decided as a system to designate these funds for a parental involvement coordinator.

Additionally, all parents are entitled to a "right to know" which gives them the opportunity to learn of their child's teacher's certifications.

2. Describe: 1) How there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered; 2) How parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making.); and 3) How funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school.

Ashville Middle School will have two Title I meetings in order to be more flexible with parent schedules and with the intent to increase parental involvement. We will have meeting before school at 7:30 am and one in the afternoon after school at 5:30 pm. We will advertise these meetings the following ways: Email, parent callout using School Messenger, post on the sign in front of the school, school website and the school newsletter. During these meetings, parents will be allowed to assist in the planning of the CIP as well as give input on how the Title I funds will be used. The district will also host a Title I set aside meeting inviting parent to give input on the distribution of the district Title I funds.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

Translators are funded through local monies and are used to communicate with parents and students when necessary as well as TransACT which translates teacher communication in writing to parents. The school also provides all forms in Spanish as well as the School-Parent Compact. The school works closely with the EL teacher in providing parents with information that is needed.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and updated).

A committee was developed to review and revise the School-Parent Compact before school started.. The committee consisted of teachers, parents and administrator. The School-Parent Compact is distributed at the beginning of each school year. Mariola Roberts(school

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translator) translated the School Parent compact into Spanish for our non-English speaking parents. The system requires to have the document signed by a parent, student and teacher, and returned to the school. It serves as a periodic reminder of all stakeholders responsibilities. The School-Parent compact is discussed during the annual Title I meeting. The parents are encouraged to provide feedback.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan.

Should a parent wish to comment or express concerns or recommendations regarding the Continuous Improvement plan he/she should feel free to contact the principal or any committee member and arrange a time to discuss the concerns. If the parent is not satisfied with the results from the meeting he/she may notify the principal in writing within 5 days of the meeting. A meeting between the parent and the remainder of the available committee members may be convened to address the concerns. If the parent is still not satisfied he/she may submit their concerns to the Federal Programs Coordinator. The FP Coordinator will forward concerns to the Federal Programs Section at the SDE.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide training for parents of participating children in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. (Describe)

Again, much of this information is discussed in the yearly Title I parent meeting. Additionally, workshops are provided through our parental involvement program directed by Alice Brown. Our counselor meets with each student through whole class planning activities to discuss student academic achievement standards. Parents can also monitor their child's progress through I Now home portal.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (Describe)

The parental involvement program provides workshops to address concerns such as literacy and technology training. The parent liaison provides supplies and materials for children in need and who struggling. Additionally, AMS maintains a mathematics resource center for those who need additional manipulatives.

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6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school. (Describe)

Training will be conducted yearly at the first SEAL meeting and during the early dismissal professional development day.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.(Describe)

Funds are designated to our parent involvement liaison who maintains and coordinates parental involvement series supplementary to those provided at our school. Ashville Middle School hosts both Doughnuts for Dad and Muffins for Mom. These are opportunities for parents to come to school with their child and see the teachers. AMS will also host an Open House during the month of October. The parents will have the opportunity to run their student's schedule and visit each teachers classroom. Parents will have the opportunity to schedule teacher/parent conferences during this time.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (Describe)

Information on all school meetings, parent notices, etc. is sent to parents in the most appropriate language. Additionally, the ELL teacher assists in communication with parents as needed.

6f. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve

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student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (Describe)

Requests for parental involvement activities may be directed to the school principal. Periodic surveys may be administered throughout the school year.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students; including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

Upon request and/or notification of need, Ashville Middle School will go to the extent and exercise what is practical to ensure that information is provided to all parents in a format for which they are most familiar and most easily understood. Students with disabilities have serviced with an IEP or 504 plan. Meeting are held yearly to address these plans and make any changes that are needed. These teams can meet at any time if requested by the parent. Students with an IEP also receives progress reports every nine weeks from their case manager. Karen Freeman, EL teacher, helps with providing information to both EL students and Migrant students.