



Robert E. Howard Middle School

1255 Bellville Road NE, Orangeburg, SC 29118

Robert E. Howard Middle School 2015-2016 Parent Involvement Policy

Parental involvement is an integral part of the Title I Program at Howard Middle School. The administration and staff recognize the significance of a partnership between home and school to help children realize their fullest potential and this policy was created with that in mind.

1. Parents will receive an informational letter notifying them of changes to the Title I Program.
2. A yearly meeting will be scheduled to provide a program overview for all parents/guardians.
3. Parents will have an opportunity to participate in yearly Parent Involvement Workshops designed to provide suggestions for home involvement activities to enhance student progress and foster a love of learning.
4. Parents will have an opportunity to meet with the school's Title I staff during meetings and conferences. Conferences will coincide with the district schedule (typically in October and March).
5. Timely information will be shared via telephone calls, letters, email and the school website.
6. The effectiveness of parent involvement activities will be evaluated via a brief parent survey.
7. The Title I staff will contact parents on an "as needed" basis to discuss student progress and provide suggestions for home involvement activities.
8. The Title I staff may elect to publish a newsletter several times throughout the year.
9. The school will provide the opportunity for parents to be involved in planning, review and improvement of programs through the annual meeting and surveys.
10. Administration may arrange school meetings at a variety of times or work with parents who are unable to attend meetings. The school tries to schedule meetings in the evenings when most parents are not at work. Information shared at meetings is mailed home or another time is arranged individually.

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11. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation, childcare, or home visit expenses to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

12. Parents will be elected by parents to serve on the school's School Improvement Council.

13. Parents of participating children will be provided with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. The school will also provide assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic content standards and student achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. The information above will be explained and shared with parents through the following:

- Parent Information Night and grade level open houses
- Curriculum nights
- Classroom/school/district/newsletters and publications
- Howard Middle School website

14. The Title I compact was developed by School/District level personnel and Parents to share responsibility for improved student achievement.

15. The school will host family nights that will provide training in Literacy, Math and use of technology.