

Tyler County Schools

Title I Parent Involvement Policy

PART I - GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Tyler County School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

1. The school district will put into operation those 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) or the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultations with parents of participating children.
2. 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.
3. The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
4. 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, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
5. 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.
6. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
7. 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; (D), the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Section 1118 of the ESEA

PART II - DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS.

The Tyler County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:

1. The district-wide plan will be developed in accordance with state provided guidelines. All parents will then have the opportunity to comment upon the policy as necessary. The policy will be reviewed every three (3) years.

The Tyler County School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

1. The district will insure that all local schools include on their LSIC, parents who will work with each school in the area of school improvement.

The Tyler County School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance

1. The Title I Director will work with each school to insure that the schools are implementing effective parental involvement activities. Resources will be forwarded to each school to meet activity needs.

The Tyler County School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:

1. Invitations are extended to parents of Pre-Kindergarten students as well as to Head Start Representatives to attend annual preschool screening clinics. Title I teachers are available at each clinic to meet with parents to discuss Title I services.

The Tyler County School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The school district will use findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its parental involvement policies.

Surveys will be sent home to each Title I parent for their input. Surveys are to be returned to each school and data collected will be forwarded to the Title I Director for possible revisions.

The Tyler County School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, involved parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described as follows:

- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- The state's Next Generation Content Standards and Objectives;
- The state's student academic achievement standards;
- The state and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments;
- The requirements of Part A;
- How to monitor their child's progress, and;
- How to work with educators.

This assistance will be provided through parent meetings with Title I teachers and Principals as well as through newsletters, brochures / booklets / and Westest 2 results.

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:

1. Providing parent meetings, newsletters, Family Fun Nights, brochures, booklets, and access to school websites. Meetings will be coordinated with regular school parent teacher conferences.

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by providing staff development opportunities, resources, and observations of other schools to provide a knowledge base for implementation.

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start and public preschool 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 by extending invitations to parents of preschool students and Head Start students to attend preschool screening clinics.

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. If a parent's native language is not English, to the extent feasible, the school will provide the information in their native language. If requested, the information will be provided on audio tape for non-reading parents.

PART III - DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The district wide parental involvement policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(3) of the ESEA:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request

PART V – PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW

Upon request, each Title I school will provide to parents of Title I, Part A students certain information about the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals / instructional aides providing services to the child.

PART IV - ADOPTION

This policy was adopted August 17, 2006, and affirmed October 5, 2009 by the Tyler County School District and will be reviewed every three (3) years and revised as needed. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children at the beginning of each school year. This policy will also be provided to entering students upon enrolling in the school throughout the school year.