

Hillside Public Schools

Title I District- Wide Parental Involvement Policy

Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires each school district to establish expectations for parental involvement. The Hillside Board of Education and its public school recognize the important role parents have in the education of their child. The **Hillside Public School District** agrees to implement the following statutory requirements of the Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) as its Title I Parent Involvement Policy:

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

- 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, 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.
- 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 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.
- 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

1. The Hillside Public 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:

The school district will hold an annual Title I parent meeting where parents will assist in the development, agreement, and implementation of the district parent involvement policy.

The school district will invite parents whose children receive Title I services to participate in the development of the district Title I plan. Parents will provide suggestions for increased parent involvement.

2. The Hillside Public School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

The school district will share goals, assessment, and achievement data with parents.

The school district will invite parents to participate in school review and improvement activities.

The school district will work to ensure that documents are sent to parents in timely and practical manner in a language parents understand.

The school district will survey parents on school review and improvement. The survey data will inform plans for school improvement and parent-school engagement.

The school district will hold an annual Title I parent meeting to discuss the Title I plan parental involvement activities, and solicit suggestions for school improvement.

3. The **Hillside Public 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:

The school district will collaborate with meet with administrators to enhance the coordination of activities and use resources to improve student achievement and school performance.

The district staff will provide annual training to Title I school administrators and staff on effective parental involvement strategies.

4. The **Hillside Public School District** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: [Insert programs, such as: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-operated preschool programs], by:

N/A

5. The **Hillside Public 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 the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

The school district will hold an Annual Title I Parent Advisory Council Meeting to solicit feedback as a part of the program evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy. The district will communicate with parents regarding this evaluation in a timely and practical manner in a language that they understand. The school district will use surveys to determine the effectiveness of parental involvement policy and programs.

1. The Hillside Public School District will build the schools' and parent's 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 below:
 - 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 academic content standards,
- 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:

The school district will offer parental involvement workshops for parents throughout the year in collaboration with schools and the PTA. Monthly newsletters and the district website will provide parents with strategies and for monitoring their child's homework and academic progress.

- 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:

Offering PARCC Information for Parents Sessions, Effective Parenting Workshops and Family Technology Workshops.

The district and its Title I schools will provide parents with a copy of the Home-School Compact.

The district and its Title I schools will provide parents with activities and support during Open-House/Back-to-School-Night.

The district and its Title I schools will provide parents with suggestions for improvement and increasing student achievement.

The district and its Title I schools will provide workshops and training for parents regarding topics such as:

*Home-School Connection
Effective Parenting Strategies
Math and Language Arts Skill Builders
Effective ESL Strategies for Parents*

- 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 district personnel with policies, materials and training on effective meaningful, two-way communication with parents.

Working with all administrators, support personnel and teachers to effectively communicate with parents in a clear format and understandable format.

Utilize Back-to-School Night as a means of implementing effective and meaningful, two-way communication.

Utilize the Genesis parent portal as a means for parent to monitor their child's academic progress and communicate with classroom teachers.

- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public 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, by:

N/A

- 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:

The district will disseminate information to Title I parents in a manner that is both timely and meaningful in a language they understand via:

Flyers

The District Website/School Webpage

Global Connect (by phone/text)

Parent Letters

Local Television Station

Communication will be translated

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(e) 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;
- training 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.]

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PART IV. ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the agenda from Title I Parent Meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Hillside Public School District on October 15, 2015 and will be in effect for the period of 5 years. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before November 1, 2015.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)