

Gadsden City Board of Education

**TITLE I
PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

POLICY / PLAN

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DISTRICT-LEVEL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY / PLAN
FOR
GADSDEN CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

No Child Left Behind Act Section 1118 (a) (2)

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Local Education Agency (LEA) must implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents which must be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation, must be organized, systematic, ongoing, informed, and timely.

"Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children." Section 1118(a)(1)

"Each LEA which receives Title I funds shall develop jointly with, agree with and distribute to parents of participating children a written parent involvement policy." Section 1118(a)(2)

II. RESERVATION OF FUNDS:

- A. Gadsden City School System will reserve at least one percent (1%) of its allocation to implement parental involvement activities. 95% of the 1% set aside, shall go directly to the schoolwide sites based on school enrollment.*
 - B. Parents of children receiving services must be involved in the decisions regarding how funds reserved will be spent for parental involvement activities.*
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III. WRITTEN POLICY

A written policy was adopted by the Gadsden City Board of Education (FILE: IDDGA) on February 4, 2003. This policy ensures that the following Parent Involvement Plan will be implemented.

- A. Gadsden City School district will involve parents in the joint development of the district Title I Parent Involvement Plan and the process of school review and improvement. (Section 1116, Section 1118(a)(2)(A))*

Gadsden City school district ensures that its written parent involvement plan is implemented in the following manner:

- Two parents from each Title I school across the district, will participate on an advisory council*
- Parents will participate in the development and review of the instructional plan*
- Parents will participate in the development of the school improvement plan*

Title I schools will ensure that parents are involved in developing a written parent involvement plan, to include:

- *How the school will convene an Annual Title I Parent meeting of all parents of participating children, at a convenient time, to inform them about Title I participation its requirements, and their right to be involved.*
- *A flexible schedule of meetings, such as morning or evening.*
- *Involve parents in an organized ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs including planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement plan.*

B. Gadsden City school district will provide for the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I participating schools in planning, and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. Section 1118(a)(2)(b)

The District will:

- *Plan a comprehensive home- school parental involvement program through the Parent /Teacher Resource Center*
- *Provide technical assistance in the development of the school-parent compact*
- *In an effort to improve student achievement, maintain a strong school, family and community partnership, the LEA will help parents understand the National Education Goals, state content and performance standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor progress while participating in their children's improved performance. The LEA will conduct at least one inservice program, focusing upon the National Education Goals, state content, and performance standards, state and local assessments, and Title I.*
- *Offer information through practical suggestions and activities for utilization in the home*
- *Additionally, individual conferences regarding these areas will be offered to parents who request more information and/or to parents who may be recommended for such assistance by professional staff members*
- *Additional activities to promote improved student achievement can be to: train parents to serve as tutors, encourage parents to attend parent education meetings, assist parents in interpreting assessment results, train parents to monitor homework assignments, help parents to understand their role in parent-teacher conferences.*

Title I schools will:

- *Utilize the district level Parent Involvement Policy/Plan as a guide in formulating the schools Parent Involvement Policy/Plan*
- *Incorporate the Parent Involvement Plan within the CIP Plan*
- *Develop a school-parent compact jointly with parents of participating students, explain how it is used, reviewed and updated annually*
- *In an effort to improve student achievement and maintain strong school, family, and community partnership, the LEA will help parents understand the National Education Goals, state content and performance standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor progress while participating in their children's improved performance. The LEA will conduct at*

least one inservice program focusing upon the National Education Goals, state content, and performance standards, state and local assessments, and Title I

- *Information will be offered through practical suggestions and activities for utilization in the home*
- *Additionally, individual conferences regarding these areas will be offered to parents who request more information and/or to parents who may be recommended for such assistance by professional staff members*
- *Additional activities to promote improved student achievement include: training parents to serve as tutors, encouraging parents to attend parent education meetings, assisting parents in interpreting assessment results, training parents to monitor homework assignments, helping parents to understand their role in parent-teacher conferences.*

C. Gadsden City school district will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in accordance with Section 11118(e).

The District will:

- *Build teacher and parent capacity for strong parent involvement through the District Annual Parent Advisory Meeting*
- *Promote TV Advertisement*
- *Offer System Web-based request for comments*

Title I schools will build teachers' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement with:

- *Annual Title I Parent Meeting*
- *Monthly or Bi-Monthly Title I meetings*
- *Administering Surveys*
- *Offering School site Web-based request for comments*
- *TV Advertisement*

D. Gadsden City school district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I, Part A with such involvement under other federally funded programs. Section 1118 (a)(2)(D)

The District will:

- *Develop, coordinate and integrate the parental involvement plan with the following Head Start, Even Start, and Pre-Kindergarten agencies*
- *Interact with these agencies and respond to the needs and desires of parents and their children*
- *Provide parents with various opportunities to learn about child development and child rearing through the provision of monthly parent meetings and the distribution of various materials. These programs will assist parents in understanding the physical, intellectual, and emotional development of their child. Various agencies and resources in the community will be utilized to assist this effort. The total development of the child and the healthy maintenance of the child's development will be emphasized in an effort to assist the child's success in school*

- Provide relevant curriculum materials from the Parent/Teacher Resource Center. The parental involvement specialist and staff will be responsible for making contacts within the home and school to reinforce the classroom program.

Title I schools will:

- Provide parents with various opportunities to learn about child development and child rearing through the provision of monthly parent meetings and the distribution of various materials. These programs will assist parents in understanding the physical, intellectual, and emotional development of their child, various agencies and resources in the community will be utilized to assist this effort. The total development of the child and the healthy maintenance of the child's development will be emphasized in an effort to assist the child's success in school
- Provide relevant curriculum materials from the Parent/Teacher Resource Center. The parental involvement specialist and staff will be responsible for making contacts within the home and school to reinforce the classroom program.

E. Gadsden City school District will conduct with parents, an annual evaluation, of (1) the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy and plan in improving the academic quality of Title I schools, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in authorized activities; and, (2) use the findings to design more effective strategies and revise the plan. Section 1118 (a)(2)(E)

The District and each Title I school will conduct:

- An Annual Parent Survey in May to determine necessary actions to increase parent participation and identify barriers that need to be addressed
- An Annual Parent Involvement Evaluation in May will be done by the school staff to determine strengths and weakness of the schools' parent Involvement Plan and make the necessary changes to increase parent participation
- All communication, to the extent possible, in a language and form parents can understand
- Assisted enrollment, to the extent possible limiting barriers for parents who are ELL, Homeless, Migrant, or have a disability

F. Gadsden City school district will actively involve parents in activities of the Title I schools. Section 1118(a)(2)(F)

The District will:

- To the extent practical and with no barriers, provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, homeless or migratory children
- Provide information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities be sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Distribute the state and local report card information to parents
- Educate parents in the interpretation of the report card and yearly assessments, grades K-12
- Encourage parents to work with educators to improve their children's performance

- *Provide the following procedure for the school to submit comments/concerns to the LEA, if the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) is not satisfactory to parents: If a specific component of the CIP Plan is not satisfactory to a parent the parent will submit their comments in writing to the LEA Parent Advisory Council. The council will review and submit in writing, their findings to the CIP committee in order to resolve any differences. If there are further resolutions, the Title I Coordinator will meet with the committee.*

The District will provide:

- *A list of adult literacy training agencies*
- *Title I Parent/Teacher Resource Center to assist parents toward improving their children's achievement*
- *Inservice meetings to educate teachers, pupil service personnel, principals, and staff with assistance from parents, concerning how to reach, communicate, and work with parents*
- *Workshops*
- *School Board Meetings*
- *Provide materials and facilities to train parents, teachers, and pupil services personnel, principals, and staff to work with parents as equal partners in compliance with Parent's Rights-to-Know regarding the professional qualifications of teachers. Section 1111(h)(6)*
- *Guidelines for Parent Notification NCLB Handbook for Parents*
Parents have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher. To request information regarding the qualifications of your child's teacher, contact the principal.

Title I schools will:

- *Provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessment used, and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children*
- *To the extent practical and with no barriers, provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, homeless or migratory children*
- *Provide 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.*
- *Provide the following procedure for the school to submit comments/concerns to the LEA, if the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) is not satisfactory to parents: If a specific component of the CIP Plan is not satisfactory to a parent the parent will submit their comments in writing to the LEA Parent Advisory Council. The council will review and submit in writing, their findings to the CIP committee in order to resolve any differences. If there are further resolutions, the Title I Coordinator will meet with the committee.*

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
No Child Left Behind Act Section 1118 (a)(2)

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AND PROCEDURES FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Involve parents in the joint development of the instructional plan and process of school review and improvement.
2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in developing, planning, and implementing a comprehensive parental involvement program.
3. Help parents understand the National Education Goals, state content and performance standards, state and local assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor progress while participating in their children's improved performance.
4. Provide materials and facilities to train parents, teachers, and pupil services personnel, principals, and staff to work with each other with parents as equal partners (in compliance with Parent's Right-to-Know regarding the professional qualifications of teachers).
5. Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff with assistance from parents concerning how to reach, communicate, and work with parents.
6. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs, activities with Head Start, Even Start, and State-run preschool programs.
7. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the parental involvement program and policy content and effectiveness to determine necessary actions to increase parent participation and to identify barriers of hard-to-reach parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited-English, limited-literacy, or any racial or ethnic background (in compliance with notification of parents of limited English proficient children's rights).

PROVED
 2-4-03