

**PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN INSTRUCTIONAL
AND OTHER PROGRAMS**

The Board of Education believes that the education of each student is a responsibility shared by the school as well as the family. The Board recognizes the need for a constructive partnership between districts and families that will provide for two-way communication and foster educational support for students and families.

The Board also recognizes the special importance of parental involvement to the success of its Title I, Migrant (MEP), and English Language Learner (ELL) programs. Pursuant to federal law, the district and parents will jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy that will be distributed to parents participating in any of these programs. The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction serves as the coordinator for the Parent Involvement Policy.

The Board has established the following seven goals related to parent involvement in Pattonville schools. Pattonville and its schools will:

1. Promote regular, two-way, meaningful communication between the home and school;
2. Promote and support responsible parenting;
3. Recognize the fact that parents and families play an integral role in assisting their children to learn and will support parents and families in this role;
4. Promote a safe and open atmosphere for parents and families to visit the school that their children attend and actively solicit parent and family support and assistance for school programs;
5. Include parents as full partners in decisions affecting their children and families;
6. Use available community resources to strengthen and promote school programs, family practices and the achievement of students; and
7. Include parents in the decision-making process at both the district (i.e., Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council) and school levels; School improvement teams at each school will consist of 50 percent parent participants who are not staff members.

In keeping with these beliefs and goals, it is the intention of the district to cultivate and support active parental involvement. In order to do this, the district will:

1. Provide activities that will educate parents regarding the intellectual and developmental needs of their children at all age levels. This will include promoting cooperation between the district and other agencies or school/community groups (such as parent-teacher groups, Common Sense Parenting Classes, parent-to-parent mentoring programs, Head Start, Parents as Teachers, etc.) to furnish learning opportunities and disseminate information regarding parenting skills and child/adolescent development.

District Code:

2. Implement strategies to involve parents in the educational process, including:
 - keeping families informed of opportunities for involvement and encouraging participation in various programs.
 - providing access to educational resources for parents/families to use together with their children.
 - keeping families informed of the objectives of district educational programs as well as of their child's participation and progress within these programs.
3. Enable families to participate in the education of their children through a variety of roles. For example, family members should be given opportunities to:
 - provide input into district policies.
 - volunteer time within the classrooms and school programs.
4. Provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent involvement strategies.
5. Perform regular evaluations of parent involvement at each school and at the district level.
6. Provide access, upon request, to any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
7. If practicable, provide information in a language understandable to parents.

Title I Parent Involvement

District Policy

Pursuant to federal law, the district and parents of children participating in the Title I program will jointly develop and agree upon a written parent involvement policy. This policy will describe how the agency will accomplish the following:

- Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I program plan and in the process of reviewing the implementation of the plan and suggesting improvements.
- Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs.

District Code:

- Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The district will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies.
- Involve parents in the activities of the schools served.

School Policy

Each school receiving Title I funds will jointly develop with and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parental involvement policy agreed upon by such parents in accordance with the requirements of federal law:

- The policy must be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- The policy shall contain a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children.
- Each school participating in the Title I program will convene a meeting annually to inform parents about Title I and to involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review and improvement of the school parental involvement policy.

Migrant Education Program Parent Involvement

Parents of students in the MEP will be involved in and regularly consulted about the development, implementation, operation and evaluation of the Migrant Program.

Parents of MEP students will receive instruction regarding their role in improving the academic achievement of their children.

English Language Learner Parent Involvement

Pursuant to federal law, parents of ELL students will be provided notification regarding their child's placement in and information about the district's ELL program.

Parents will be notified of their rights regarding program content and participation.

Adopted: January 28, 2003
Revised: March 18, 2003
Revised: February 28, 2006

District Code:

Cross Refs: IAA, Instructional Priority Goal
IGBCA, Programs for Homeless Students
IGBHA, English to Speakers of Other Languages
IK, Academic Achievement
JHDA, Psychological Testing of Students
KI/KJ, Public Solicitations/Advertising and Announcements in
the Schools
KL-R, Public Complaints About Instructional/Library Materials

Legal Refs: §§610.010-.028, RSMo.
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110
General Education Provisions Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232h