

Title I - Parent and Family Engagement Policy

The Rowan County Public Schools system recognizes that parent/family engagement is essential as we partner to educate the students of our District and to prepare them for lifelong learning. Schools, families, and community must all be actively involved in developing strong programs and policies that support the academic success of every student in the Rowan County School system.

The term “parent and family engagement” means the participation of parents and family in regular two (2)-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including the following:

- That parents and family play a vital role in assisting their child’s learning;
- That parents and family are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
- That parents and family are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in the decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- That the school district engages in activities to support parent and family engagement in the Title I programs.

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Contingent on confirmation of resources and other necessary information being provided by state and federal authorities, it is the intent of the Board that parents and family of participating students shall be provided with flexible opportunities for organized, on-going, and timely participation in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including opportunities to suggest modifications, based on changing needs of parents, family, and the schools.

All comments indicating parent and family dissatisfaction with the Title I plan shall be collected and submitted along with the plan to the Department of Education.

The Title I program shall be designed to assist students to acquire the capacities and achieve the goals established by law, as well as the goals and standards established by the Board. Consistent with law and policy covering student records confidentiality, these goals and standards shall be shared with parents and family in a manner that will give them: (1) timely information about programs; (2) a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, the achievement levels in the challenging state academic standards; the achievement level of their child on the challenging state academic standards assessments; and (3) if requested, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

PURPOSE AND SUPPORT FOR TITLE I PROGRAM

The purpose of the Title I program is to provide instructional activities and supportive services over and above those provided by the regular school program to academically low achieving children. Title I services are based on various objective criteria that are consistent with federal and state requirements, such as standardized test scores, teacher judgment, and interim benchmark assessments conducted throughout the year.

Title I - Parent and Family Engagement Policy**PURPOSE AND SUPPORT FOR TITLE I PROGRAM (CONTINUED)**

If the District's Title I allocation is \$500,000 or more, the District shall reserve not less than one percent (1%) of its allocation for the purpose of promoting parent and family engagement and shall distribute to Title I schools not less than ninety percent (90%) of the reserved funds with priority given to high-need schools. Parents and family of participating students shall be provided the opportunity to help decide how this portion of the Title I funds will be allotted for parent and family engagement activities.

The District will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. These measures may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1. Providing resources to assist in communicating with parents and family.
2. Provide transportation/child-care if needed for meetings or home visits.
3. Sharing options for coordinating and integrating Title I program strategies with services of other community programs, businesses, and agencies.
4. Engage parents and family as equal partners in their child's education through staff training activities.
5. Have an annual District Title I meeting for all parents and family to attend to inform them of their school's participation in and requirements for Title I programs and of their rights to be involved.
6. Sharing options for coordinating and integrating Title I program strategies with services of other community programs, businesses, and agencies.
7. Design and conduct an effective annual evaluation process whereby parents can share their ideas about improving the academic quality of schools receiving Title I funds, and how barriers can be reduced or removed.
8. In the design of activities and materials for parents, particular attention shall be given to reaching and involving those who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.

SCHOOL POLICY

Each school shall submit to the Superintendent and Board, for review and comment, its Title I school parent and family engagement policy, which must meet all legal requirements, including a school-parent compact developed in keeping with legal requirements. This Policy shall be developed jointly with, and distributed by the school to, parents of participating students.

A copy of each school's parent and family engagement policy and accompanying checklist shall be kept on file in the Central Office.

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REFERENCES:

Section 1118 of Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) of 1994

P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

[KRS 157.077](#); [KRS 158.645](#); [KRS 158.6451](#)

[KRS 158.865](#); [KRS 158.866](#); [KRS 158.867](#)

20 U.S.C. § 6318

RELATED POLICIES:

03.112; 08.1345; 09.11

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