

2017-2018

Southwestern Consolidated School District of Shelby County Title I Parent Engagement Policy

The Southwestern Consolidated School Board intends to follow the parental policy guidelines in accordance with the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* as listed below. The Southwestern Consolidated School Board will distribute this policy to parents of students participating in the Title I program.

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 1116 of the ESSA.*

The Southwestern Consolidated School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

1. Involve parents in jointly developing our district's local plan under section 1112 and in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116;
Implementation:

- Explain the requirements and rights of the parents to be involved,
- Convene an annual Title I meeting,
- Utilize AdvancED to survey parents.
- Invite parents to serve on Title I Parent Advisory Committee

(OVER)

2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;

Implementation:

- Allow use of school facilities for family involvement activities,
- Ensure that Title I, Part A grant funds are reserved for parent involvement supplies and equipment. (Not less than 1% will be set-aside if 1% of the allocation is more than \$5,000.)
- Provide INOW Parent Portal
- Maintain district/school website

3. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by: Providing assistance to parents and children served as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and student academic achievement standards, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Implementation:

- INOW Parent Portal
- Title I Parent notification/explanation letters
- teacher newsletters
- notification of assessment results (i.e. STAR, mCLASS, Engrade, IREAD-3, ISTEP+)
- parent teacher conferences
- Title I Annual Meeting
- links on school website
- support GEI (General Education Intervention) process

Providing materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate to foster parental involvement.

Implementation:

- Support Title I School-Home Links monthly family involvement kits program
- Provide Title I page on school website

Educate educators with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

Implementation:

- Schedule weekly early-release day to allow for professional development
- Provide materials such as books for professional book study as necessary
- Support Southwestern PTO by allowing use of school facilities

Ensuring, to the extent possible, that information sent home is in a language and form parents can understand.

Implementation:

- Provide multiple avenues of communication such as newsletters, phone calls, and emails to reach all parents in a language all parents can understand (free from educational jargon and translated if necessary).

Other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

Implementation:

- Support formation of Title I Parent Advisory Committee.

4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Even Start, and Earlywood Educational Services.

Implementation:

- Share timely information with all involved.
- Collect and disseminate data.

5. 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 our Title I school including:

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.

Implementation:

- Convene an Annual Meeting,
- Monitor parent participation rates,
- Survey parents,
- Disaggregate testing data
- Invite parents to be on Title I Parent Advisory Committee
- Revise policy, as necessary, based on data and parent input

6. Involve parents in the activities of schools served under Title I, Part A (section 1116), ESSA

Implementation:

- responding to any parent suggestions as soon as practicably possible
- collecting and submitting any comments indicating parents' dissatisfaction with the school Title I program along with the Title I Application for Grant to the Division of Title Grants and Support.

(OVER)

Expectations for Parent Engagement

- The Southwestern Consolidated School Board intends that parents of participating students be provided with frequent and convenient opportunities for full and ongoing participation in the Title I program. This shall include opportunities to jointly develop the Title I program plan and suggest modifications in the process for school review and improvement.
- Any comments indicating parents' dissatisfaction with the district Title I program must be collected and submitted along with the Title I Application for Grant to the Indiana Division of Title Grants and Support.
- The Title I program must be designed to assist students to acquire the competencies and achieve the goals established by law, as well as the goals and standards established by the Southwestern Consolidated School Board. These goals and standards must be shared with parents in a manner that will enable them to (1) participate in decisions concerning their child's education and (2) monitor and improve the educational achievement of their child.

School Policy

- Require each Title I school to submit its parent involvement policy, which must meet all legal requirements. This policy must be developed jointly with parents and distributed by the school to parents of participating students. The policy must be updated annually. A copy of the school's parent involvement policy shall be kept on file with the Title I program plan in the Central Office.
- Include, as part of the Title I program, a School-Parent Compact, which is a written agreement of what schools and parents are each supposed to do to help students achieve.

References

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Public Law 114-95, Section 1116, Parent and Family Engagement.

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/essa-act-of-1965.pdf>