

2016-2017
Southwestern Elementary School
Targeted Assistance
Title I Parent Involvement Policy

Southwestern Elementary School intends to follow the parental policy guidelines in accordance with the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* as listed below. Southwestern Elementary School will distribute this policy to parents of students participating in the Title I program and will update this policy periodically.

As a school served with Title I, Part A funds, Southwestern Elementary will:

1. Convene an annual meeting.
 - The annual meeting will be held early in the school year in conjunction with Parent-Teacher Conferences.
 - All parents of children participating in the Title I program shall be mailed invitations and encouraged to attend.
 - Parents will be informed of the school's requirements to participate under Title I, Part A and their parent rights to be involved will be explained. Drafts of the current School and District Parent Involvement Policies and a copy of the School-Parent Compact are included in the annual meeting invitation letter.

2. Offer a flexible schedule of meetings, and use Title I funds to provide transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.
 - The Title I Annual Meeting will be offered in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Parents who cannot attend are also encouraged to offer input through written notes, email, phone calls, or individual conferences.

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of programs.
 - Invitations to be a member of the Title I Parent Advisory Committee are included in the invitation to the annual meeting. This committee meets at least once annually in the fall to plan, review, and improve the school parental involvement policy. All Title I parents receive a notice/invitation to attend the Title I Parent Advisory Committee meeting/s. Title I parents will receive updated policies when revisions are made.
 - Parents are invited to share opinions in surveys such as one offered through AdvancED.

4. Provide the parents of participating students with:

Timely information about Title I programs

- Parents of participating students are mailed notifications upon completion of student identification in early fall. Ongoing communication occurs via parent newsletters and postings on the Southwestern Elementary Title I web page.

A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

- Parents can access curriculum, assessment, and proficiency level information via INOW Parent Portal, Title I Parent notification/explanation letters, teacher newsletters, reports of assessment results (STAR, mCLASS, Acuity, ISTEP+), parent teacher conferences, Title I Annual Meeting, and links on school website.

If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible

- Parents are invited to be on the Title I Parent Advisory Committee, and to attend parent-teacher conferences. Parents are invited to participate in GEI (General Education Intervention) meetings. Parents may request GEI meetings. The Title I director will respond to parent requests within one week of receiving the request.

5. Provide a written School-Parent Compact which is an agreement of what schools and parents are each supposed to do to help students achieve.

- See the attached School-Parent Compact.

6. Provide assistance to parents of children served as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

- Parents are encouraged to participate in the GEI (General Education Intervention) process and may request GEI meetings.
- Parents have multiple opportunities to have transparent communication with the classroom teacher (i.e. newsletter, email, phone calls, parent/teacher conferences, and parent communication apps).
- Parents can access curriculum, assessment, and proficiency level information via INOW Parent Portal, Title I Parent notification/explanation letters, ~~teacher newsletters~~, reports of assessment results (STAR, mCLASS, Acuity, ISTEP+), parent teacher conferences, Title I Annual Meeting, and links on school website.
- Parents have the opportunity to access general school information via social media and through the daily video announcements.

7. Provide materials and training on how parents can improve their child's achievement
 - Each month School-Home Links activities are given to every Title I student's family. Students identified for assistance in reading receive books geared to their instructional reading level to read to or with their families. Students receive bonus books when parents sign and return the form indicating how they used the book at home. Families of students identified for assistance in math receive instructions for math activities and/or games to do together as a family. Manipulatives are included in the math kits. Teacher newsletters and website links are also provided.

8. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies under other programs
 - Partner efforts with county agencies such as School Smiles, Healthy Shelby County, and Major Hospital, and Shelby County Youth Assistance Program, as possible, to provide information stations regarding topics such as dental health, immunizations, healthy life choices, and nutrition at an annual kindergarten parent night.

9. Educate school staff on how to build ties between home and school
 - Coordinate efforts, as appropriate with district staff development committee to use built-in weekly professional development time to support teachers in understanding the importance of working with parents as partners.

10. Ensure, to the extent possible, that information sent home is in an understandable format
 - Information will be shared in a language that all parents can understand (free from educational jargon and translated when needed).

11. Other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.
 - The Title I Parent Advisory committee welcomes and considers parent requests. If the school plan is not satisfactory to the parents, their comments will be collected and submitted along with the Title I Application for Grant to the Division of Compensatory Education.

**Southwestern Elementary Title I
School-Parent Compact
2016-2017
School Year**

Student Name _____

Grade _____

Effective schools are a result of families and school staff working together to ensure that children are successful in school. You are invited to be involved in a partnership with Southwestern Elementary School.

A compact is a voluntary agreement between groups that firmly unites them. The following compact outlines how Southwestern Elementary staff, and the parents of students participating in programs funded by Title I, Part A for *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will work together to help children meet the challenging Indiana state standards.

School Pledge:

As a teacher, I, _____, will strive to:

- Believe that each child can learn; and have high expectations for each student to meet the Indiana state academic standards.
- Teach with an interesting, challenging curriculum that motivates and promotes student achievement.
- Communicate frequently and meet annually with families about student progress and the school-parent compact.
- Seek ways to involve parents in the school program by inviting them to volunteer, participate in, and observe classroom activities.
- Provide a safe, pleasant, and caring atmosphere.
- Actively participate in collaborative decision making with parents and school colleagues to make our school accessible and welcoming for families.
- Respect and value the uniqueness of each child and his or her family.

Family/Parent Pledge:

As a parent/guardian, I, _____, will strive to:

- Believe my child can learn; and communicate the importance of education and learning to my child.
- Provide adequate rest, food, and medical attention so that my child is ready to learn.
- Help my child get to school on time and attend regularly.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences and school functions.
- Talk with my child about his or her school activities and communicate regularly with school staff.
- Read to my child and encourage my child to read at home.
- Make a time and a place for studying and monitor television viewing.
- Respect the school, staff, students, and families.

Student Pledge:

As a student, I, _____, will strive to:

- Believe that I can learn; and always try to do my best in my work and my behavior.
- Come to school prepared with my homework and supplies.

- Ask for help when needed.
- Give my parents/guardians all notices and information received by me from my school everyday.
- Show respect for myself, my classmates, my school, and my family.