

Jefferson County Board of Education Parental Involvement Policy for Title I Schools

The Jefferson County Board of Education supports strong partnerships with families and schools. Training and appropriate resources will be provided for teachers, administrators, and parents to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to increase student achievement. The district will involve parents in jointly developing the district's local policy and reviewing school improvement through meetings with the district's parent advisory committee. The policy will be distributed to parents of students attending Title I schools. Additionally, the district will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student achievement and school improvement. The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with other programs as appropriate.

An annual evaluation will be conducted with the involvement of parents to determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools. The evaluation will include parent surveys focus groups, and student assessment data. Parents will also be given the opportunity to submit suggestions and concerns regarding the parental involvement policy to the parent advisory committee. This information will be reviewed annually and used to make revisions to the district plan as necessary.

The district will identify 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. To the extent practicable, all information required under section 1111 of the ESEA will be provided to parents in an understandable and uniform format and, include alternative formats upon request, in a language parents understand.

The school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA. This policy will specify that each school will:

- Convene an annual meeting to explain the school programs to parents and inform them of their responsibilities and right to be involved in the programs.
- Offer a flexible number of information parent meetings, including building a strong home/school connection, parenting skills and literacy development.
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in planning, review, and improvement of school programs.
- Provide timely information about its school programs to parents, describe the curricula, student assessments, opportunities for regular meetings where parents can provide input, and respond promptly to parent suggestions.
- Provide parents with an opportunity for meaningful and ongoing consultation and communication about the academic quality of the school.

Additionally the school district will comply with the Parents Right to Know provision of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 regarding the rights of parents to be informed of the credentials/qualifications of their child's teacher/s. Parents will also be informed of their school choice and/or supplemental educational services options when schools are identified for school improvement or determined to be unsafe in accordance with the NCLB act of 2001.