

Adopted: 09/16/2019

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 612.1

Revised:

Orig. 1996

Rev. 2016

Reviewed: 09/05/2019

612.1 DEVELOPMENT OF PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICIES FOR TITLE I PROGRAMS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and facilitate involvement by parents of students participating in Title I in the educational programs and experiences of students. The policy shall provide the framework for organized, systematic, ongoing, informed, and timely parental involvement in relation to decisions about the Title I services within Yinghua Academy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school is to plan and implement, with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children, programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in its Title I programs.
- B. The policy of the school is to fully comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6318 which requires the school to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs written parent and family engagement policies.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that will be incorporated into the school's Title I plan. The policy will establish the expectations for meaningful parent and family involvement and describe how the school will:

- A. Involve parents and family members in the joint development of the school's Title I plan and the development of support and improvement plans;
- B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the school in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;

- C. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with similar strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs;
- D. Conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or who are of a racial or ethnic minority background); the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- E. Use the findings of such evaluations to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the school-level parent and family engagement policies; and
- F. Involve parents in the activities of the school, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the school to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the school for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

IV. DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration of the school to develop (or amend an existing parental involvement policy) jointly with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents and families, that shall describe the means for carrying out the federal requirements of parent and family engagement. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- A. The policy will describe the means by which the school with a Title I program will:
 - 1. Communicate annually via e-mail or in-person meeting with parents of participating children, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I programs, and to explain to parents of participating children the program, its requirements, and their right to be involved;

2. Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of the parental involvement programs policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children;
 3. Provide parents of participating children with: timely information about Title I programs; a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards; and
 4. If the school-wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent's comments on the plan to the Academic Committee when it is submitted to the school.
- B. As a component of this policy, the school shall jointly develop with parents a school/parent compact which outlines how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact shall:
1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to meet state student academic achievement standards;
 2. Describe the ways each parent will be responsible for supporting his or her child's learning.
 3. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through the use of:
 - a. Annual Back-to-School Curriculum Nights, parent-teacher conferences to discuss the compact and the child's achievement;
 - b. Frequent progress updates to the parents through Infinite Campus as well as report cards in each of the three terms; and
 - c. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate in the child's class, and observe in the child's classroom.
 - d. Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

C. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement, the policy will describe how the school will:

1. Provide assistance to participating parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
2. Provide materials and training to assist parents in working with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
3. Educate school staff, 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 school;
4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children to the extent feasible and appropriate;
5. Ensure, to the extent practicable, that information about school and parent meetings, programs, and activities is sent via the school's newsletter to all parents
6. Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents.

D. The policy will also describe the process to be taken if the school chooses to:

1. Involve parents in the development of training for school staff to improve the effectiveness of such training;
2. Provide necessary literacy training with funds received under Title I programs if all other funding has been exhausted;
3. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

4. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
5. Arrange meetings at a variety of times to maximize parental involvement and participation in school-related activities;
6. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
7. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and business in parental involvement activities.

The policies will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parent and Family Engagement)

Cross References: