




Title One Parent Involvement

Illinois State Board of Education
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How does a student benefit
from parental involvement?

Research

- Increase in attendance
- Better understanding of school
- More positive toward school and staff
- School becomes more effective
- Increase in test scores




How can a parent be involved?

- As appropriate in the following school activities.
 - Volunteering in my child's classroom
 - Participate in decisions relating to my child's education.
 - Stay informed (reading all notices and communications sent home by the school and/or district).
 - *If asked* serve as a member of an advisory board, support team, or other committee.



Is it important?

- NCLB Title 1 Part A Subpart 1 Section 1111-1118 mentions Parents 300 times.
- It is a focus of monitoring when USDE visits.
- Parents want to know what is going on in their child's school.

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- What are you doing in your district with Parent Involvement?

Monitoring Results from 2008

- Letters need to include all required components when referring to:
 - SES,
 - Choice or
 - Not Highly Qualified
- No letters were sent about public school choice and SES options.
- Insufficient time for parents to make decisions about public school choice or SES.
 - Must be to parents by the first day of school

Monitoring Results from 2008

- Information not provided to parents in other languages, as appropriate.
- Parents were not notified about the qualifications of paraprofessionals.
- Parents were not notified when their child had been assigned to or taught by a teacher who is not highly qualified for four or more consecutive weeks.





Monitoring Results

District and School Level

- Parent Involvement Policies were not current.
 - District
 - School
- Parent Involvement Policies did not include required elements.
- School-parent compacts did not include required elements.
- Schools did not create and disseminate school-parent compacts.



Monitoring Results

District and School Level

- Parents not involved in annually reviewing parent involvement policies and school-parent compacts and revising as needed.
- Principals and/or staff are not aware of requirement of written parent involvement policies.
- Charter Schools not aware of all Title I requirements for parents' policies and school-parent compacts.



Monitoring Results

Parent Involvement in State, District and School Planning

- Required annual meeting with parents did not include information about:
 - school's Title 1 program,
 - information about AYP,
 - school choice and SES.

Section 1118 (C) (4) ESEA

- Parents not included in the development, review and implementation of school improvement plans.



Monitoring Results


Parent Involvement in State, District and School Planning

- Parent not involved in decisions on use of funds reserved for parent involvement activities.
- Lack of district focus on building capacity of parents.




Funding

- 1% of LEA's Title I allocation must be set aside for parental involvement if their allocation is over \$500,000. 95% of the 1% funds must go directly to the school.
- Parents must be involved in decision on how the money is spent
 - Allowable activities
 - Ways to use the funding
- ARRA Title I funds can be used to increase capacity for Parent Involvement.



Annual Parent Meeting Requirements

- Describe and explain the school's curriculum.
- Inform on the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress.
- Inform on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Parent rights and involvement at the school.



Terms

Parents do not know

- Title 1
- State Assessments
- AYP
- School In Need of Improvement
- SES
- HQT
- Choice



Required Documentation

- Parent Involvement Policy
 - School
 - District
- School Parent Compact
- Letters
 - SES
 - Choice
 - Not High Qualified



District Role

- Each LEA (District) must develop a written parental involvement policy based on Title I Part A Section 1118 (a) (2) ESEA.
- Conduct an annual evaluation with the involvement of parents on the effectiveness of the parent involvement policy.
- Use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement.
- Provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities.
- Build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- There should be a complaint procedure in place.



Letters to Parents

- **SES** - Annually a letter should be sent to the parents which describe the services available and identity of the approved providers from the ISBE list. (Section 1116)
- **Choice** – Letter must be sent well before the start of school. The letter must be approved by ISBE before it is sent out to parents.
- **Not Highly Qualified Teachers-** notice to parents that the child has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher not highly qualified. (Section 1111)



School Policy Components

- Each school needs a policy even though the District has one.
- This policy should be specific to the needs of the school.



School Policy Components

- Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with other programs.
- Conduct with the involvement of parent an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy.
- Involve parents in the activities of the school.



Building Capacity

- Must ensure effective involvement of parents and support a partnership among the school, parents and community.
- Provide assistance to parents on understanding topics.
- Provide material and training for parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement.



Building Capacity

- To educate teachers, pupil service personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contribution in the development of training.
- To coordinate and integrate parent involvement program and activities with other federal programs ie: Head Start, Even Start, Public Preschools, Reading First.



Building Capacity

- May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities --- transportation and child care cost.
- May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- May establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on parental involvement.
- May develop appropriate roles for community based organization and businesses in parent involvement activities.



School-Parent Compact

- It must describe the high quality curriculum and instruction in an effective learning environment that enables children served under Title I Part A to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.
- Ways for Parents to be responsible for supporting their children's environment.
- Importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis.



School-Parent Compact

School Responsibilities examples

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- Hold parent-teacher conferences.
- Provide parents with frequent reports on their student's progress.
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff.
- Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their student's class and to observe classroom activities.



School Parent Compact

Parent Responsibilities examples


- Parents will support our student's learning and achievements in the following ways:
 - Make sure my student is in class *everyday* prepared to participate.
 - Make sure that homework is completed on time.
 - Monitor outside classroom activities.



School Parent Compact

Student Responsibilities

- Describe the ways in which students will support their academic successes.
- Example: Do my homework everyday.
 - Ask for help when I do not understand.
 - Read for at least 30 minutes each day.
 - Make sure all notices and information is given to my parent or the adult responsible for my well being.



School-Wide Program

- A Title I School-Wide program requires the school to employ strategies to increase parental involvement.
- All parents in a school-wide program school are eligible to participate in parent involvement activities.
- The focus of these activities is to raise the achievement and include the parents of the lowest-achieving students in order that they may better assist in the education of their child.



School Improvement & Parents

- Year One -
 - Explain what is meant by the identification “in improvement”
 - Explain how the school compares to other schools with in the district and state
 - Reason for the identification
 - Explain how they can be involved in addressing the problems
 - Explain the option of Choice



School Improvement & Parents

- Year two
 - Option to transfer to a school in the district that is making AYP
 - Information regarding Supplemental Education Services (SES)
- Corrective Action, Restructuring
 - Explain the identification
 - How to be involved in the development or implementation of the plan



Private School

- Parents of Private School students have rights to equitable participation.
- There should be a written agreement between the LEA and Private School regarding the consultation regarding parent involvement activities.
- LEAs have the final authority of allocation of funds – use the same measure of low income used to count public schools children.

Resources

- U.S. Department of Education – toolkit
<http://www.sedl.org/connections/toolkit/>
- Academic Development Resources www.adi.org
- Parent Involvement Resource Center (PIRC)
http://www.colum.edu/ccap/Illinois_PIRC.php
- Developing Meaningful Parent Involvement -
LRP Publications



ISBE Resources

- ISBE Parent Involvement Webpage
<http://www.isbe.net/grants/html/parent.htm>
- School Parental Involvement Policy
http://www.isbe.net/nclb/word/school_parental_involvement_template.rtf
- School Parent Compact
http://www.isbe.net/nclb/word/school_parent_compact_template.rtf



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