

Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001 www.isbe.net

Jesse H. Ruiz Chairman

Rod Blagojevich *Governor* **Dr. Randy J. Dunn**State Superintendent of Education

October 3, 2005

Dear Superintendent:

This letter is to notify your district and Title I schools, *if not already completed*, that you must develop a written districtwide parental involvement policy, local school parental involvement policy, and complete school-parent compacts. [See 20 U.S.C. Section 1118 et seq. (ESEA)]

- 1. In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each local educational agency (LEA) or school district that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by subsection 1118(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (districtwide parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the state educational agency (SEA).
- 2. In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with and distribute to parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (parental involvement policy).
- 3. Each school receiving funds under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, Part A activities, services, and programs. That compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents under subsection 1118(b) of the ESEA. The compact must outline how parents, the entire school 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.

In addition, all superintendents must direct Title I school principals to ensure that districtwide and local school parental involvement policies and school-parent compacts are disseminated to parents and teachers immediately.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Myron Mason, Acting Division Administrator, Federal Grants and Programs Division at 217-524-4832.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Luallen
Division Administrator

Division of Accountability

Enclosures: Sample Template for a Districtwide Parent Involvement Policy

Sample Template for a School Parent Involvement Policy

Sample Template for a School-Parent Compact