

# Mountain Home School District Parent Involvement Policy

The Mountain Home School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements for Title I, Part A schools and non-Title I schools:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, 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.
- The school district will incorporate this district parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition: *Parent involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring--*
  - (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
  - (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.
- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

The Mountain Home School District is committed to fostering and promoting parental involvement as required in Title I, Part A, Section 1118. To accomplish this goal, our schools will involve parents in the

development of the LEA policy and the process of school review and improvement through the following types of involvement activities:

- o Parental involvement group meetings
- o Conducting parent surveys
- o Consultation
- o Scheduled parent meetings
- o Conferences
- o School improvement meetings

A. The LEA will foster effective parental involvement strategies and support partnerships among schools, parents, and the community to improve student achievement by implementing the following strategies:

- \*Develop and disseminate district parental involvement policy.
- \*Conduct an annual meeting in the spring to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program.
- \*Reserve of a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental involvement, with 95% going to Title I, Part A schools.
- \*Coordinate parental involvement activities with those of other programs.
- \*Establish parental involvement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A
- \*Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.
- \*Develop district parental committee to create a parental involvement policy and implement parental involvement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parental involvement in the Title I, Part A schools and non-Title I schools.
- \*Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.

B. The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement using the following strategies:

- \*Conduct site visits to observe parental involvement practices.
- \*Provide materials and training not otherwise available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.
- \*Enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners.
- \*Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand.
- \*Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community.
- \*Provide a copy of the school policy at each school for parents to view as well as provide a copy to each parent.
- \*Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
  - a. Develops a parental involvement policy.
  - b. Offers flexible meeting times.

c. Provides information to parents about the school's program, including parent information guides.

d. Develops and uses School-Parent Compact.

e. Provides training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on the grade book Pinnacle program to access grades.

\*Reinforce parenting skills to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.

\*Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts.

\*Encourage parent participation through innovative scheduling of activities through strategies such as holding meetings at a variety of times, such as morning and evenings, in order to maximize the opportunities for parents to participate in school-related activities.

\*Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies and staff training.

\*Convene annual school meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental involvement policy and their right to be involved.

C. The district will build the school's capacity for strong parental involvement using the following strategies:

\*Provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.

\*Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school.

\*Encourage the formation of partnerships between schools and local businesses that include the role of parents.

\*Provide resources for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.

\*The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), and public preschool and other 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.

\*Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.

\*Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities.

\*Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A parents.

D. The district will conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater parent participation using the following strategies:

\*Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement.

\*Provide an opportunity for parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.

\*Develop procedures for collecting parent participation documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.

\*Use findings from evaluation process to:

- Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revisions
  - Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement
- \*Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community.

