

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Weston County School District #7 Title I Program recognizes the importance of parent involvement in schools. The Title I Program has placed a high priority on working with parents and families to provide the best possible education for each child in the program. This policy represents input from parents and will be available to all parents of Title I children.

Research has shown that parents who participate in their child's education make critical contributions to their child's academic achievement. Therefore, it is the consensus of the Title I Program that every school providing Title I services to students will involve families in the education of children.

It shall be provided to parents and educators of children participating in Title I programs. This policy shall be evaluated annually to determine that worthwhile strategies to encourage and maintain parental involvement are in place. This policy sets forth how the district will involve parents in developing its Title I plan and how parents will be informed of ways they can be included in decision-making for the program. The intent of this policy is to involve parents as partners in the process of school review and improvement, in activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, and to have an integral role in assisting in their child's learning. Meaningful efforts will be made to ensure involvement, along with community members and "mainstream" students' parents, parents of students with disabilities, limited English proficiency, or other categories often needing supplemental assistance in order to attain proficient levels of achievement.

The district shall annually, by the end of September, through newsletters to parents, website postings, media reporting, and building-level Parent Advisory Committee meetings, inform parents regarding the status of district schools as it relates to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB)'s Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirement, and of consequences for those schools identified as not meeting AYP requirements. Parents shall be notified of:

- a. their right to examine staff members' qualifications related to the NCLB "highly qualified" requirement.
- b. their rights regarding their child's attendance site or participation in programs focused on school improvement, for those schools not making AYP for two consecutive years;

- c. assurances that all students in the district shall be involved with state-required assessment, with alternate assessments or exclusions only as allowed under Wyoming Department of Education guidelines;
- d. the district's commitment to offering training annually, to parents, related to activities in the home which reinforce student progress in such areas as reading, mathematics, science, self-esteem, and others;
- e. their right to be informed about progress and to be involved with decision-making regarding their child's educational program, and in a language appropriate to their circumstances;
- f. Consolidated Grant resources available for use in parent activities including training, out-of-district school site visitations, and support for meeting expenses including child care, transportation, and supplies;
- g. that the district shall provide opportunities for parents to meet individually with staff, at times as convenient as practicable, to discuss student progress and concerns. Evening sessions often allow more extensive parent participation, due to constraints resulting from employment considerations. Parents will be informed of internet-based, secure information which they may retrieve, on a daily basis if so desired.
- h. their right, if they are home-schooling parents, to have access to federally-funded programs such as Title I, Special Education, and staff development training, and that their children may participate in annual state-mandated assessments;
- i. requirements as mandated by State standards, State assessments and requirements for graduation.

BUILDING INVOLVEMENT

1. Each fall (September), a letter will be sent home to all parents of children selected for participation in the Title I Program, informing them of selection and the nature of instruction. All parents will be invited to attend a meeting at their school for discussion of specifics concerning the instructional objectives and methods of the program. Follow up efforts will be made through phone calls, direct mailing, and optional evening meetings. Parents of children added during the year will receive consideration fulfilling this goal.

2. Transformation of information concerning pre-school students who could benefit from the Title I Program offered by Weston Co School Dist #7 is carried out in the spring of each year. Title I staff confers with Region III Weston County Children's Center staff to explore the needs of any child who will be entering kindergarten in the district in the area of instructional interventions in reading or math curriculum.
3. Responsibility of parents and suggestions for projected home-school partnership will be presented through communication with parents during the year. This will be through our district newsletter mailed to the community and the Title I Student/Parent/School Compact. The school will also hold Family Activities with students and family members attending.

Valuable information, resources and materials are available for parents at the school and may also be picked up at conference time, in order to support student's achievement. Family literacy activities and materials may be sent home throughout the school year as educational tools.

Teachers will provide progress reports for parents four times a year in concurrence with the issuance of district report cards. At designated times and at parents' requests, at least one conference concerning their child's progress will be arranged. Parents are encouraged to attend school-sponsored activities and to visit their child's Title I classroom

4. Teacher inservice will follow the district policy, directed toward more effectiveness in working with parents and including those with Title I children.
5. Communication with parents will consist of Title I news printed in the district newsletter. Phone calls, visits, and conferences may also be held when needed.

Teachers are available to parents before and after school or by appointment in order to foster parent-teacher communication.

The Title I Program will provide families with the opportunity to work with the school. The school will provide these opportunities through many means, including but not limited to: onsite parent committees, parent/teacher conferences, open house, family activities, and written communication.

6. As awareness for parents lacking literacy skills or where the primary language is not English, provisions will be made to translate the printed materials.

NEW POLICY
REVIEW DATE: MARCH 4, 2015
ADOPTION DATE: APRIL 8, 2015

