

West Carroll Parish Schools

Parental Involvement Policy

Part I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The West Carroll Parish School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

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). These 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.

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 of 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 the Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

* Parental involvement is defined as the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including **and** ensuring—

(A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) 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;

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

PART II: DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The West Carroll Parish School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA by:

Parents from each Title I school will be a part of the LEA Title I District Advisory Committee

The District Advisory Committee will participate in the annual review and revision of the district wide parental involvement plan.

2. The West Carroll Parish School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA by:

Closely monitoring and informing schools that per Title I statute and School Improvement requirements each school shall have parent representatives as members of its School Improvement Team (SIT)

Parents on the SIT will be *actively* involved in the annual planning and review at the school level.

Documentation of SIT planning meetings and school review consisting of agendas, dates, signatures of members present, time and minutes of meeting will be on file at each school.

Schools will hold an annual meeting (generally at the beginning of the school year) to review current programs and share with parents what services are offered.

School report cards from the Louisiana Department of Education will be sent to parents in a timely manner.

3. The West Carroll Parish School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by:

Title I personnel available to assist schools with the planning of parental involvement activities.

Personnel will be available to participate at school level parental involvement.

Each school will have a minimum of four parent meetings per year at varied times throughout the day.

The Title I Coordinator will review annually the Title I plans submitted by participating schools for accuracy and/or additional information.

Funds and materials will be provided where appropriate to assist in building school and parent capacity for strong parental involvement.

4. The West Carroll Parish School District will Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, Even Start, and State-operated preschool programs by:

Collaborating and coordinating as per program requirements

Inviting and encouraging all parents to participate in all Title I sponsored parental involvement activities.

5. The West Carroll Parish School District will take the following actions to conduct, **with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, and are of any racial ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies by:**

*** Having a district wide Parent Advisory committee meeting hosted by Title I Director and Title I Coordinator**

*** The committee will evaluate the content and effectiveness of the district policy and formulate a survey to distribute to parents at each school. The findings will be tabulated by each school's representatives.**

*** Survey findings will be used to design strategies for more effective parental involvement activities.**

*** Revise the district wide parental involvement policy based upon the findings, suggestions and input of the committee.**

1) The West Carroll Parish School District will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A Schools provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph—

The state's academic content standards,
The state's student academic achievement standards,
The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
The requirements of Part A,
Monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators by:

Information/brochures from the LA Department of Education pertaining to the State's academic content standards, academic achievement standards, and assessments including alternate assessment will be sent home to parents.

Each school has planned a LEAP/iLEAP Parent night to provide a more detailed explanation to parents by grade level.

Schools will be encouraged to provide parents with strategies to monitor their child's progress and assist with homework.

District Title I Office will also use available funds to take parents to the annual parent meeting(s) sponsored by the LA Parent Congress.

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, using technology to foster parental involvement by:

Providing a centrally located parent center with instructional materials to assist their children with homework and other identified needs.

Assist any parent in need of literacy training.

Allow parents to use the computer lab in the parent center with access to the internet and computer assisted instruction programs to assist parents with adult education classes and the use of technology.

Provide parents with materials and information on how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers and administrators to improve their children's academic performance.

Schools will offer family activities such as Family Math Night, Family Literacy Night, etc.

C. The district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicated with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinated parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:

Conducting a workshop on how to work and communicate effectively with parents; inviting parents to participate. Encourage parents to attend parental involvement activities, awards ceremonies, and parent-teacher conferences. Encourage parents to serve on school committees and as volunteers at the schools in various capacities to foster the relationship between parents and the school staff.

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool youngster, the Parents as Teachers 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 by inviting all parents to parental involvement activities.

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request; and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand by:

Schools send notes home with information

Schools using the JPAMS telephone contact system

Announcements on the local radio station

Announcements in the local newspaper

Posting announcements on the bulletin boards in the local stores.

School District t Web Site presence

Announcements at school-wide activities

PART III DISCRETIONARY WEST CARROLL PARISH PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Discretionary activities that the school district, or individual schools, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA may include:

Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training; if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;

Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

Arranging meetings at a variety of times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;

Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;

Establishing a district wide advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I Part A programs;

Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities, and; providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.