

# East Stroudsburg Area School District

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: PARENT INVOLVEMENT

ADOPTED: MARCH 19, 2007

REVISED:

**REPEAL: Reissuing as new policy #918 Title 1  
Parental Involvement**

| 908.2. PARENT INVOLVEMENT   |  |
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| 1. Purpose  | In support of strengthening student academic achievement, the Board acknowledges that, since the East Stroudsburg Area School District receives Title I, Part A funds, it must develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written district wide parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This policy establishes the school district's expectations for parental involvement, describes how the school district will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and shall be incorporated into the school district's plan submitted to the state educational agency (SEA). |
| 2. Authority  | The Board authorizes the development of a district-wide parental involvement program.  |
| 3. Delegation of Responsibility   | The Superintendent or designee shall assume the responsibility for the implementation of those statutory requirements incorporated in Title I, Part A.   |
| 4. Guidelines<br>Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). | <p>The school district shall 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 shall be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.</p> <p>The school district shall ensure that its 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.</p>   |
| Section 1112 of the ESEA.   | The school district shall incorporate this policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.  |
| Section 1111 of the ESEA.   | In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools shall 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  |

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| <p>Section 1112 of the ESEA.</p>   | <p>format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.</p> <p>If the school district’s 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 PA Department of Education (PDE).</p> <p>The school district shall involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one (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 (1) percent reserved goes directly to the schools.</p> <p>The school district shall 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 the following definition.</p> <p><b>Parental involvement</b> means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;</li> <li>2. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;</li> <li>3. 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;</li> <li>4. The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.</li> </ol> |
| <p>Section 1118 of the ESEA.</p> <p>5. Implementation Section 1112 of the ESEA.</p> <p>Section 1116 of the ESEA.</p> | <p>The school district shall form a Title I district-wide parental advisory committee consisting of at least one (1) administrator, one (1) teacher and one (1) parent from each of its Title I schools.</p> <p>The Title I district-wide parental advisory committee will meet midyear and end of year to accomplish a school review.</p> <p>The school district shall provide the 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. The services of the staff member designated to coordinate Title I programs, at least one academic advisor, and an administrator who oversees</p>   |

technology instruction shall assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities. When necessary, the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction can also assist in planning. Each Title I school shall provide Title I parent assistance through Title I teachers and aides, who will conduct at least one Title I parent meeting per year to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. A minimum of two (2) additional parent contacts will be available, either on parent/teacher conference days or by parent request.

The school district shall coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under such programs as Head Start, tutoring programs, and the Love & Logic program, as is applicable.

The school district shall conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation shall include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities, with particular attention paid to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The school district shall use the findings of the evaluation with regard to this policy to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

At the end of each school year a survey shall be used to help identify needs of Title I parents. The survey shall be written by the advisory committee. The survey shall be sent home to the parents of each Title I child. Follow-up phone calls shall be made by Title I staff to help ensure surveys are returned.

The school district shall build the schools' and parents' capacities for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through:

1. With the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, providing 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 --
  - a. the state's academic content standards;
  - b. the state's student academic achievement standards;
  - c. the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
  - d. the requirements of Part A;
  - e. how to monitor their child's progress; and

f. how to work with educators.

2. Workshops, of interest to Title I parents, will be offered by Title I schools at various times and district locations to accommodate parents' differing schedules. A district-wide presentation shall be offered once a year. Parents shall be encouraged to attend any Title I local and state conference, paid for by Title I parental involvement grant funds (may include child care, transportation, or home care expenses as needed).
3. The school district shall, 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, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by Offering at least one (1) technology and one (1) literacy workshop during the year at various times during and after school to accommodate parent's differing schedules.
4. The school district shall, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
5. The school district shall, to the extent possible, 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 Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, 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, by including the afore-mentioned organizations in workshops, in-services and presentations provided through Title I funds.
6. The school district shall help to ensure that information related to the school, including 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.
7. The school district shall pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

8. In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, the school district shall schedule meetings at a variety of times.
9. The school district shall establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
10. The school district shall provide a resource center cart at each Title I school supplied with a variety of parental support and supplies.
11. The school district shall update its website with regard to its Title I programming.

The school district shall distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children within the first month of the initial adoption and any subsequent revision of this policy.