

Welcome

Title I Parent Advisory Council

- ☞ Please Sign-In
- ☞ Parents: name, address, phone, email
- ☞ Introductions
- ☞ Meeting Purpose
 - St. Marys Area Parent Advisory Council
 - Policy Review
 - Feedback / Input
 - Website Content Review



DEVELOPING PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICIES

Title I, Part A

NCLB (2002) → Every Student Succeeds Act (2015)

Reauthorization of the Federal Elementary and
Secondary Education Act (ESEA)



What is Title I?

- Title I is the largest federally funded education program.
- Title I provides extra help to low achieving students in reading and math.
- The goal is to help low achieving students catch up and keep up.
- **TITLE I FAST FACTS** (handout resource)

Why Parent Involvement is Important

- ☞ Research over 25 years has been consistent.
- ☞ When parents are involved -- regardless of income level or background -- children do better in school.
 - Increased attendance
 - Lower drop out rate
 - Better test scores
 - Fewer discipline problems
 - Higher college attendance rates

Review Current Policy

- Board Policy 918: *Title I Parent Engagement and Involvement.*
- Is it understandable?
- Review of each section and consideration of updating as necessary.

Policy Review

- ☛ Part I: Expectations
- ☛ Part II: District Wide Parental Involvement Policy Components
- ☛ Part III: Discretionary Policy Components

School Policies Must Include...

- ☛ An assurance that an annual meeting will be held 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.
- ☛ Guiding Questions:
 - ☛ Are parents aware of the Title I meeting?
 - ☛ Is the meeting held at a time/place convenient to parents? (See survey results.)
 - ☛ What can we do/change to make it easier for parents to attend or to bring it to the attention of parents?

School Policies Must Include...

- ☛ An assurance that parent activities will be held at a variety of times throughout the day to meet the needs of Title I parents.
 - Discussion:
 - What do the survey results say are the best times for parents to attend meetings?
 - Is there a more effective way to hold workshops that would make it possible for more parents to attend?

School Policies Must Include...

- ☛ A statement that the school will provide, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
 - Tip: Define “practicably possible” – come to consensus on an acceptable timeframe to respond to suggestions from parents.

School Policies Must Include...

- How the school will provide assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic content standards and student achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.
 - Tip: Use this section to describe HOW the schools will do these things. Maybe a fact sheet on understanding the State academic standards and local assessments would be helpful ; maybe workshops or training sessions would be best to teach parents how to monitor a child's progress; maybe meetings with teachers or teachers providing training to parents would help with improving the achievement of children.

School Policies Must Include...

- A description of how the school will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement.

- Discussion Questions:

- What is the best way to provide these items to parents? Workshops, training sessions, conferences?
- What areas do parents need the most training in?
- Should the workshops be held multiple times?

And, if appropriate...

- A description of how the school involves parents in the joint development of the Schoolwide Program Plan. (*Applies only to Title I schools operating a Schoolwide Program.*)

Optional Items

- ☛ A summary of the district parent involvement policy.
- ☛ Incentives for parents to be involved.

DISTRIBUTING THE POLICY

- ✓ Moves the Policy from a Planning Document to an Action Document
- ✓ Get the Word Out!
 - School Newsletter ?
 - Weekly Lunch Menus ?
 - Web Sites ?
 - Email ?
 - School Messenger ?
 - Mailing ?
 - Local Newspaper ?
 - Community Events ?
 - Special School Events ?

EVALUATING THE RESULTS

- ☛ Schools are required to review the policies each year to determine if they are effective and to make changes, if needed
 - Parents must be involved
 - Need to know more than whether it is in place
 - Need to know what's working and what's not

Resources

- ☞ SPAC Parent Involvement Toolkit
 - www.SPAC.k12.pa.us
- ☞ US Department of Education
 - www.ed.gov
 - Title I Legislation
(Section 1118 – Parent Policy)
- ☞ Project Appleseed (National Campaign for Public School Improvement)
 - www.projectappleseed.org
- ☞ PA Academic Standards
 - PA Department of Education
 - www.pde.state.pa.us



Questions

Congratulations!

- ✔ We've completed the update of our parent policy.
- ✔ For further information on ways to increase parent involvement in our schools:
 - www.spac.k12.pa.us (State Parent Advisory Council website)
 - www.ed.gov (USDE Website)