

Title I Parent Involvement Policy

Boonville Elementary School (BES) is committed to doing everything possible to ensure a child's success in school and beyond. Understanding that ultimately a child's best chance for success depends on creating an environment in which learning is encouraged and supported both in school and at home, BES believes in the necessity of school/parent partnerships. Parents are their child's first teachers and their involvement in the education of their children is essential. But it is the partnership between school and home that will most fully address all aspects of a child's needs and impact learning.

The importance of parent involvement is also recognized by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), which is intended to raise student achievement through academic standard setting and accountability. The Title I program, created by NCLB, provides funding to eligible schools in order to help students who are at-risk or in danger of falling behind academically. Parent Involvement is a key component of Title I and a portion of Title I funds is specifically set aside for supporting the parent/school partnership.

To help ensure a consistent and vibrant parent/school partnership, BES has developed the following parent involvement policy:

Parent Involvement Policy Development and Distribution

A team of parents, teachers, principals, and school district personnel will meet annually to review and revise as needed the school's Parent Involvement Policy. The team will consider how the plan promotes the social, emotional, and academic growth of children. The policy will be distributed to parents at the first parent teacher meeting (PTO), via the school website, and the first school newsletter.

Parent Communications

Early in the school year, parents will be invited to attend the first PTO meeting that will also serve as a review of the school's Title I status. During the meeting, parents will be given the school's Parent Involvement Policy and informed of their rights to revise the policy. Also during this meeting, parents will be informed about the Title I program, North Carolina curriculum, school expectations, assessments, and performance standards. Parents unable to attend may receive this information by requesting it from the office and parents will be encouraged to meet with their child's teacher.

Meetings and parent conferences will be held regularly throughout the school year at various times in order to accommodate parent schedules and offer parents the opportunity to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. Efforts will be made to accommodate parents with disabilities or with limited English proficiency. Throughout the year, parents will receive clear and frequent communication via written correspondence, school and classroom newsletters, telephone, e-mail, teacher conferences, and other meetings. Information also will be posted on the district and school websites.

School-Parent Compact

All parents will be encouraged to join with administrators, principals, and teachers to sign a compact outlining how each will contribute to student achievement.

The district and school administrators will take responsibility for providing a highly qualified staff and quality instruction in a supportive, and effective teaming environment.

Title I teachers will take responsibility for using best practices and research-based teaching strategies to assist students in meeting state standards.

Parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning by encouraging at home reading, other homework, and participating in decisions relating to the education of their children. Parents will be asked to continue support for reading over the summer.

Opportunities for Parent Involvement

Parents will be given ample opportunities and resources to become actively involved in their children's education. Parents will be encouraged to volunteer at school and/or serve on school committees. Because at-home learning is as valuable as the learning that takes place at school, parents will have resources available to them including, but not limited to, reading lists, take home readers, websites, and other educational tools for helping students.

Program Evaluation

At the end of every school year, parents will be requested to complete a survey on the parent involvement component of the Title I program. Parents will be invited to participate in an annual review meeting to evaluate the Title I program.

The Title I program and Parent Involvement Policy will be updated to meet the changing needs of the students, parents, and staff. Boonville Elementary School will provide leadership and guidance in the establishment of clear and effective opportunities for parental involvement. Everyone gains when there is a shared effort, interest, and commitment between parents, teachers, administrators and students.