

2014-2015 District Wide Support for Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Coos Bay 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). Those 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.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 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 its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) that 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 ESEA.

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

1. The Coos Bay 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:

- The district will establish and maintain a Superintendent's Advisory Team (SAT) inviting a minimum of two parents from every school who are members of Site/Title teams and serve to advise and effect the decisions of the district in regards to student achievement and Title issues. This team will meet monthly with the superintendent and annually report to the School Board. Its members are invited to participate in professional development planning and events throughout the year.
- Each school's Site and Title Team will review the Parent Involvement policy annually in the spring and make recommendations for improvement which will be shared with the SAT of parents in the fall and a final recommendation will be brought to the Board and shared at a Board meeting in October.
- The Title plans and, for non-Title building a similar document, will be presented at a parent evening at the start of the year in an effort to reach parents who do not attend conferences or PTA/Site Council meetings.
- Child care, food and student performances are strategies suggested by the SAT for involving traditionally under-represented parents. These strategies and others, including using more accurate terms to describe our programs, adding a curriculum page for each grade level's areas of instruction and adding language about grant opportunities will be employed by schools in an effort to increase parent involvement.
- The policy will be posted on the district website. Parent compacts, required at each school site, will be reviewed annually as well, on the same calendar, shared at a SAT meeting and posted on the school website.

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

- Each school will have an active Site Council and parent advisory group which will review school achievement data (including attendance, behavior, interim assessment and state assessments at a minimum) as part of the development of the Title 1 planning and review process.
- Parent Compacts will be reviewed and adopted every fall by each school's Site and/or Title team.
- These meetings will be open to the public and minutes of these meetings will be posted on the school website.
- The SAT will include parents who belong to every Site Council/Title team Additionally members of the SAT will have the opportunity to join the district's professional

development committee for a review of the success of the program and the planning for improvement annually.

3. The Coos Bay 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:
 - The School Improvement and the Title One Coordinator will assist administrators in planning and developing systems to improve parent involvement that is high quality, informed, and sustained. In 2014-2015 the district will also employ a 10 hour a week Family Involvement Coordinator to assist with this work.
 - The parent volunteer application forms will be online, and information will be available in newsletters and available at the office of each school so more parents will be aware of the opportunity to volunteer without having to come in and ask. We will offer training and support for parent and community volunteers including a volunteer handbook and monthly volunteer cafes at each of our k-3 schools. All schools will let parents know what activities we need volunteers for either through email, newsletters or at meetings. Once parents have been entered into the online volunteer system they are notified of opportunities to volunteer and their hours are tracked so that schools can recognize everyone for their contribution. They can be contacted in a mass email should a volunteer need arise.
 - Email the weekly newsletters to parents who have email. Continue to send hard copies home in English and Spanish as indicated.
 - Parenting classes at schools during the school year.
 - Educate parents not only on parenting trends and supporting education, but on what Title I is and how their children are served. This should be ongoing at evening events and on the websites.
4. The Coos Bay School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, Nurturing Parenting, Teen Parent Program, and the Early Learning Network by:
 - Facilitating coordination meetings, transition activities, hosting trainings and events, and sharing resources in collaboration for the growth and development of all children in the south coast.
5. The Coos Bay 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, or are of any racial or 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 to

revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

- Site /Title team responsibility at every Title School on an annual and ongoing basis.
- Interpreters provided
- Childcare offered for these meetings
- We will endeavor to hire staff who, in addition to being highly qualified and the best candidates, represent our historically under-served population.
- SAT parents thought surveys were less useful than people believe as many parents do not fill them out. Suggested activities to improve participation include having the surveys online in the computer labs during a well-attended evening event like a carnival or performance and bringing the surveys to ELL parent meetings. The district schools will adopt these strategies/activities.

6. The Coos Bay 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 school 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,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators: Curriculum Nights, Literacy Nights, TAG Nights, Math Nights, Nurturing Parenting classes, Title 1 parent education, Community Conversations with parents CCSS on websites, standards-based report cards grades k-6, student-led conferences.

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, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- **Eight Family Nights**, Data interpretation and the education of SAT members and at school sites during Title evaluation, on websites

C. The school 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, 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, by:

- Supplying essential data to parents who are trained on data interpretation including attendance , behavior, common formative assessment, standardized and interim assessment results annually at the Site/Title meetings but also regularly throughout the year at parent evenings and through the websites/newsletters.

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 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:

See above

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:

- English/Spanish versions of published materials available on the websites and as handouts.
- Weekly newsletters with translations
- Meeting with translators/ASL as needed

This agreement in support of the Parent Involvement Policy for Coos Bay School District was drafted by the Coos Bay School District Superintendent's Advisory Team on **September 22, 2014**, and will be in effect for the period of **2014-2015** school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children and post on our district website on or before **November 1, 2014**.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

School-level Parental Involvement Policies

Each school must develop, jointly with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A services, a written school parental involvement policy that describes how the school will carry out the parental involvement requirements in section 1118(c) – (f), including the development of a school-parent compact. If the school already has a parental involvement policy that applies to all parents, the school may amend that existing policy, if necessary, to meet the requirements of section 1118(b). Schools must update these policies periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. [See Appendix D for a sample template of a District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy.] *[Section 1118(b), ESEA.]*

Notification

Each school served under Title I, Part A must notify parents of its written parental involvement policy in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, provide notice and the policy in a language the parents can understand. In addition, each school must make its written parental involvement policy available to the local community. [For further information on required notices, see Appendix B and see A-8, A-9 and A-10 for additional information about language requirements and alternative formats.] *[Section 1118(b)(1), ESEA.]*