

TITLE I SCHOOL PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Each school receiving funds under Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written school-parent involvement policy jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, Part A, activities, services, and programs. That policy must comply with Section 1118(b) of the ESEA and shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of subsections (c) through (f). North Elementary School jointly developed this parental involvement policy in consultation with school personnel, community members, and parents and adopted it on October 18, 2011. A list of committee members responsible for the writing of this policy can be found in Appendix A. This policy was distributed to parents of participating children and to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. This policy shall be made available to the local community by posting it on the school's website and in Title I teachers' classrooms as well as the North Elementary main office. In addition, copies of this policy may be found in the Colonial Heights School Administration Offices and the Colonial Heights Public Library. This parent involvement plan will be updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Part 1. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

North Elementary School will:

- (1) Convene an annual meeting each fall to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved;
- (2) Offer a flexible number of meetings. A schedule of this year's meetings can be found in Appendix B;
- (3) Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy;
- (4) Provide parents of participating children:
 - (A) timely information about Title I programs;
 - (B) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - (C) 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.

Part 2. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Each school receiving funds under Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, Part A, activities, services, and programs. That compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents under Section 1118(b) of the ESEA. The compact must outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

North Elementary School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. Also, the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2011-2012.

School Responsibilities

North Elementary School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the state's student academic achievement standards as follows:

- The Title I teacher is highly qualified as a reading specialist and attends conferences and trainings to stay current on reading research and effective instructional techniques for the teaching of reading.
- Students participating in the Title I program receive additional reading intervention in addition to regular classroom instruction in literacy.
- Research-based programs and methods are chosen to provide the intervention.
 - PALS (grades K-3) guides more intensive instruction in all five of the essential components of reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. This program is intended for students who are reading one or more years below grade level and who are experiencing difficulty with a broad range of reading skills. The instruction provided through these programs should accelerate growth in reading with the goal of moving students to grade level proficiency.
- Students in Title I will be instructed in a group of no more than 5 students.
- Parent workshops will be scheduled at least three times per year to keep parents involved and informed on new reading strategies.

- Students and parents will be invited to participate in a school wide family reading night where activities and books will be available to promote fun reading experiences.
2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, this conference will be held:
- November 17, 2011.
 - Additional conferences may be held at any time upon parent or teacher request.
3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
- Report cards and Title I Progress Reports will be sent home at the end of every 9 weeks.
 - Title I Reading Book Logs are sent home Daily.
4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:
- The Title I teacher will attend any parent conference upon request by the parent or teacher.
 - The Title I teacher will attend any Special Education Child Study Meeting upon request concerning a Title I student.
5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:
- Parents are able to volunteer in their children's classrooms at teacher discretion.
 - Parents can participate in classroom and Title I activities.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Promoting regular school attendance and encouraging a positive attitude toward school.
- Monitoring bedtimes and breakfast.
- Reading with our child on a regular basis.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Helping select and monitor time spent with worthwhile television programs, and time spent with positive extra-curricular activities.
- Collaborate closely with Homeroom and Title I teachers.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.

- Supporting their child’s education by attending conferences, reviewing school work, or by contacting the school when needed.
- Expressing high expectations and offer praise and encouragement to their child.
- Volunteering in my child’s classroom.
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A, parent representative on the school’s school improvement team, the school support team, or other school advisory or policy groups.
- Attending PTA meetings, Title I workshops, and Family Reading Nights.

Part 3. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, North Elementary School and Colonial Heights City Public Schools assisted under this part:

- (1) shall provide assistance to parents of children served by North Elementary School and Colonial Heights City Public Schools, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments; also monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- (2) shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve individual achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
- (3) shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents; and how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
- (4) shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format that is practicable and in a language that parents can understand;
- (5) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request;
- (6) may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the local educational agency has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- (7) may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- (8) may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

- (9) may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- (10) may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- (11) may provide activities for younger siblings to assist in childcare concerns;
- (12) may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities; and
- (13) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.