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719 North Main Street,  
Marion, SC 29571, 843.423.1811

**Educate\*Prepare\*Inspire**

# Parent Family Engagement

To promote strong and effective parent involvement in all of its schools, Marion County School District is committed to:

- 1. Involving parents/guardians in the development of the district's Title I Plan and in the process of school review and improvement.**

Parents/guardians may become involved in the development, review of the Title I plan and School Improvement process through various activities including, but not limited to:

*A. Federal Advisory Committee B. School Improvement Council (SIC) Meetings C. School Improvement Plan Meetings D. Strategic Planning Sessions and Annual Strategic Plan Updates E. Parent Surveys F. PTO Meetings*

- 2. Providing coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.**

To assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities, the district will:

*A. Review with principals the requirements of the policy & Title I Parent Involvement Guidance B. Provide suggested procedures for involving their SIC or Title I Advisory Team in the development/review and improvement process C. Provide principals with information regarding programs, materials, and resources they may use for parent involvement activities D. Provide, to the extent possible, additional assistance as requested by principals*

- 3. Building the capacity of schools and parents for strong parental involvement.**

To build the capacity of schools and parents for strong parent involvement, the district will:

*A. Provide Title I schools with at least 95% of the 1 % of Title I funds set aside for parent involvement B. Provide all schools with websites on which they may post information for parents C. Provide all schools with information/materials to assist their parents in understanding the state's academic content standards, student academic achievement standards, and academic assessments D. Provide all parents with passwords so that they can access student grades and monitor progress E. Provide all schools with a communication service that allows schools to record, schedule, send, and track personalized voice messages to all parents in minutes F. Promote review/discussion of the School-Parent Compact during parent-teacher conferences G. Provide schools with parent materials for use with both English and non-English speaking parents H. Provide principals with information regarding programs, materials, and resources they may use for parent involvement activities with special focus on:*

*Training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement; and*

*Training/activities to improve the manner in which school personnel reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents*

- 4. Coordinating and integrating Title I parent involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs.**

*Each school will inform and encourage parents to participate in literacy, technology, and/or parenting training available through other programs such as Adult Education, Head Start, and other programs as they become available.*

- 5. Conducting, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic achievement of the participating schools, including:**

- Identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parent 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.*
- Using evaluation findings to design strategies for more effective parent involvement.*
- Revising, if necessary, the district and school parent involvement policies.*

- 6. Involving Title I parents in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic achievement of the participating school, the district will:**

- Provide Title I schools with copies of the District Parent Involvement Policy for distribution to Title I parents*
- Develop procedures for responding to parent recommendations*

- 7. Involving parents/guardians in the activities of schools, including schools served under Title I, Part A**

Parents/guardians may become involved in school activities in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to:

- Serving on committees*
- Volunteering in Schools*
- Completing surveys*
- Attending Parent meetings and parent/teacher conferences*
- Participating in parenting activities at the schools including workshops, math/science nights, and etc.*

# Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Each Title I school jointly develops with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students must share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents can build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards. School compacts may be obtained by contacting your child's school. School compacts:

Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television;

Encourage parents to volunteer in their child's classroom; and participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and the positive use of extracurricular time; and

Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through:

- Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact is discussed as the compact relates to an individual child's achievement;*
- Frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and*
- Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.*

