



## Greencastle Antrim School District Title 1 Parental Involvement Policy

### Part I. General Expectations

The Greencastle Antrim 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 that each includes, 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 practical, 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 practical, 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 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 of 1118 of the ESEA.*

### Part II. Description of how the district will implement required district wide parental involvement policy components

1. The Greencastle Antrim 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:

-At the Fall Title I parent meeting the proposed District Wide Parental Involvement Plan will be presented to parents in written form for their review and suggestions. The plan will be revised at the meeting and will be approved by the group.  
-The approved District Wide Parental Involvement Plan will be posted on the website after the Fall Title I parent meeting.

2. The Greencastle Antrim School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
  - Parents of Title I children will be invited to periodic individual Parent Teacher Conferences where the Title I staff will review their child's individual assessment results, the child's growth, and a plan for continued improvement.
  - At the Fall Title I meeting parents will be presented with the overall results of the student' assessments from the previous year. Suggestions for improvements will be encouraged.
3. The Greencastle Antrim 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 Title I Coordinator will participate in state conferences related to federal programs in order to be kept informed about effective parental involvement strategies.
  - The Title I staff will be given time to meet with the Title I Coordinator, as needed, to plan parental involvement activities.
  - Adequate financial resources will be allocated to support effective parental involvement activities.
4. The Greencastle Antrim School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start and local private preschools by:
  - Inviting parents of children in the Head Start program and parents of children in the private preschools to attend the district's First Steps to Learning Program, a parenting program designed to help parents prepare their children for entry to school.
  - Participating in a Kindergarten Transition meeting for parents of Head Start children, and private preschools, as requested.
5. The Greencastle Antrim 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. 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 its parental involvement policies.
  - Parents of Title I children will be mailed a Needs Assessment in the Spring. The Parents' Needs Assessment will be designed to provide an evaluation of the parent involvement activities and to illicit suggestions for improving access and activities. Assessment responses will be encouraged in writing, by phone, or by personal meeting.
6. The Greencastle Antrim School District will build the schools' and parents' 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, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- 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
- How to work with educators

This will be accomplished by undertaking the following actions:

-During Periodic Parent Teacher Conferences Title I staff will communicate to parents the importance of the State's academic content and achievement standards. They will share each child's on-going assessments and how these can be used to monitor the child's progress. This information will be made more relevant by using the data of the individual child.

-At the Fall Title I Parent meeting the requirements of Part A will be fully explained to parents and questions will be encouraged. Parents will be given many options for contacting the Title I staff.

- 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 by:

-Title I staff will meet with parents in the Fall and explain their program and encourage a partnership with parents to work at home. They will give specific actions that parents can use when working with their children at home.

-Parents will be invited to come into school to observe and discuss a Title I class involving the Reading Recovery program.

-Title I staff will maintain regular contact with parents through notes, e-mail and phone calls.

-A Spring Title I meeting will be held for staff to share ideas and activities for children to maintain their progress during the Summer vacation.

- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teacher, 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:

-The Title I Coordinator will attend conference sessions dealing with parental involvement and partnerships with parents at State Federal Program Conferences. The Coordinator will share information gained at staff meetings.

- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs with Head Start, and public preschools, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

-Conducting a parenting program for parents of children from birth to kindergarten, First Steps to Learning. This program will encourage a partnership with parents before their children enter school and will assist parents in preparing their children to enter school ready to learn.

-Inviting parents of children in the Head Start program and parents of children in the private preschools to attend the district's First Steps to Learning Program.

-Participating in a Kindergarten Transition meeting for parents of Head Start children, and private preschools, as requested.

- 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:

- The Title I Coordinator will mail letters concerning Title I meetings to parents of all Title I students.
- The Title I Coordinator will consult with the ESL Coordinator to determine the need for translation of Title I mailings.

**Part III. Adoption**

The District Wide Title I Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. The school district will attempt to distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children before the end of November.