

Parent Involvement

AR 6020(a)

Instruction

District Strategies for Title I Schools

To ensure that parents/guardians and family members of students participating in Title I programs are provided with opportunities to be involved in their children's education, the district shall:

1. Involve parents/guardians and family members in the joint development of a district plan that meets the requirements of 20 USC 6312 and in the development of school support and improvement plans pursuant to 20 USC 6311 (20 USC 6318)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

The Superintendent or designee may:

a. In accordance with Education Code 52063, establish a district-level parent advisory committee and, as applicable, an English learner parent advisory committee to review and comment on the plan in accordance with the review schedule established by the Governing Board

b. Invite input on the plan from other district committees and school site councils

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

c. Communicate with parents/guardians through the district newsletter, web site, or other methods regarding the plan and the opportunity to provide input

d. Provide copies of working drafts of the plan to parents/guardians in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand

e. Ensure that there is an opportunity at a public Board meeting for public comment on the plan prior to the Board's approval of the plan or revisions to the plan

f. Ensure that school-level policies on parent/guardian and family engagement address the role of school site councils and other parents/guardians as appropriate in the development and review of school plans

2. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent/guardian and family

engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents/guardians and family members in education (20 USC 6318)

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

The Superintendent or designee shall: (20 USC 6318)

a. Assist parents/guardians in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic content standards and academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

b. Provide parents/guardians with materials and training, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement

c. With the assistance of parents/guardians, educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, in the value and utility of parent/guardian contributions and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between parents/guardians and the schools

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

d. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent/guardian involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents/guardians in fully participating in their children's education

e. Ensure that information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/guardians of participating students in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand

f. Provide other such reasonable support for parent/guardian involvement activities as parents/guardians may request

g. Inform parents/guardians and parent organizations of the existence and purpose of parent information and resource centers in the state that provide training, information, and support to parents/guardians of participating students

3. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate Title I parent/guardian and family engagement strategies with parent/guardian and family engagement strategies of other relevant federal, state, and local programs and ensure consistency with federal, state, and local laws (20 USC 6318)

School-Level Policies for Title I Schools

At each school receiving Title I funds, a written policy on parent/guardian and family engagement shall be developed jointly with the parents/guardians and family members of participating students. Such policy shall describe the means by which the school will: (20 USC 6318)

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents/guardians of participating students shall be invited and encouraged to attend, in order to inform parents/guardians of their school's participation in Title I and to explain Title I requirements and the right of parents/guardians to be involved

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, for which related transportation, child care, and/or home visits may be provided as such services relate to parent/guardian involvement

3. Involve parents/guardians in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent/guardian and family engagement policy and, if applicable, the joint development of the plan for schoolwide programs pursuant to 20 USC 6314

The school may use an existing process for involving parents/guardians in the joint planning and design of the school's programs provided that the process includes adequate representation of parents/guardians of participating students.

4. Provide the parents/guardians of participating students all of the following:

a. Timely information about Title I programs

b. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

c. If requested by parents/guardians, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education, and, as soon as practicably possible, responses to the suggestions of parents/guardians

5. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating students, submit any parent/guardian comments when the school makes the plan available to the district

6. Jointly develop with the parents/guardians of participating students a school-parent compact that outlines how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build a partnership to help students achieve state standards

This compact shall address:

a. The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to achieve the state's challenging academic achievement standards

b. Ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education and the positive use of extracurricular time

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular/Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)

c. The importance of communication between teachers and parents/guardians on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:

(1) Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the student's achievement

(2) Frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress

(3) Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom, and observation of classroom activities

(4) Regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand

7. Build the capacity of the school and parents/guardians for strong parent involvement by implementing the required activities described in item #2 in the section "District Strategies for Title I Schools" above
8. To the extent practicable, provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents/guardians and family members (including parents/guardians and family members with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians and family members with disabilities, and parents/guardians and family members of migrant children), including providing information and school reports required under 20 USC 6311(h) in a format and language such parents/guardians can understand

If the school has a parent involvement policy that applies to all parents/guardians, it may amend that policy to meet the above requirements. (20 USC 6318)

Each school's parent/guardian and family engagement policy shall be made available to the local community. Parents/guardians shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents/guardians can understand. (20 USC 6318)

Each school receiving Title I funds shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of its parent/guardian and family engagement policy. Such evaluation may be conducted during the process of reviewing the school's single plan for student achievement in accordance with Education Code 64001.

The school's policy shall be periodically updated to meet the changing needs of parents/guardians and the school. (20 USC 6318)