## HIGHLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 6, 2004

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### 918. TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

1. Purpose

The Board recognizes that parental involvement contributes to the achievement of academic standards by students participating in the Title I programs. The Board views the education of students as a cooperative effort among the school, parents/guardians and community.

2. Authority 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6318 In compliance with federal law, the district and parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs shall jointly develop and agree upon a written parental involvement policy. When developing and implementing this policy, the district shall ensure the policy describes how the district will:

- 1. Involve parents/guardians in the joint development of the district's overall Title I plan and the process of school review and improvement by conducting monthly building and/or district PAC meetings attended by parents, teachers, administrators and Board members.
- 2. Provide the 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, including assistance in understanding state academic content and performance standards, state and local and requirements of Title I.
- 3. Develop activities that promote the schools' parents'/guardians' capacity for strong parental involvement by promoting an atmosphere of open communication and cooperation.
- 4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with appropriate programs, as provided by law, including information on how to work with business partners and other community organizations to learn about Title I and to encourage school/family/community partnerships.

- 5. Involve parents/guardians in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of schools served under Title I through explanation and discussion of policy details.
- 6. Identify barriers to participation by parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority and find ways to strengthen outreach.
- 7. Use findings of annual evaluations to design strategies for more effective parental involvement that will be implemented throughout the district as appropriate.
- 8. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served under Title I.

The Board shall adopt and distribute the parental involvement policy, which shall be incorporated into the district's Title I plan and shall be evaluated annually, with parent involvement.

20 U.S.C. Sec.6318 The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's Title I parental involvement policy, plan and programs comply with the requirements of federal law.

The building principal and/or Title I staff shall provide to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs:

# 3. Delegation of Responsibility

- 1. Explanation of the reasons supporting their child's selection for the program.
- 2. Set of objectives to be addressed.
- 3. Description of the services to be provided.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that information and reports provided to parents/guardians are in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent feasible, in a language the parents/guardians can understand.

An annual meeting of parents/guardians of participating Title I students shall be held to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program. Parents/Guardians shall be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program. Parents/Guardians shall be encouraged to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs.

#### 4. Guidelines

In addition to the required annual meeting, additional parent/guardian meetings shall be held at various times of the day and evening. At these meetings, parents/guardians shall be provided:

- 1. Information about programs provided under Title I.
- 2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- 3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in the decisions relating to the education of their children.
- 4. Opportunities to submit parent/guardian comments about the program to the district level.

If sufficient, Title I funding may be used to facilitate parent/guardian attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and child care costs.

Opportunities shall be provided for parents/guardians to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their child's progress.

Parents/Guardians may be given guidance as to how they can assist at home in the education of their child.

Whenever Title I parents/guardians are involved in the planning, review, and improvement of the educational programs of the district and require transportation, child care, home visits or other services in order to participate, related expenses may, at the discretion of the district be paid from Title I funds. The goal of our partnership is to develop programs, activities, and procedures collaboratively, aiding families in the district.

### School-Parental Compact

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents/guardians of students served in the program a School-Parental Compact outlining the manner in which parents/guardians, school staff and students share responsibility for the improved student achievement in meeting academic standards. The compact shall:

- 1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, enabling students in the Title I program to meet the district's academic standards.
- 2. Indicate the ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting the children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time.
- 3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents/guardians, and reasonable access to staff.

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