

Parental Involvement Policy

1. What approach does your district take to ensure Title I parents are well informed and parents are encouraged to be meaningfully involved in their child's education.

The St. Helena Parish School District will continue to work with parents to improve the teaching and learning that take place at St. Helena Central Elementary and at St. Helena Central High School. The district will provide opportunities for all parents to be involved in school planning and educational activities. Meeting and conferences will be held throughout the school at times that are convenient to parents to encourage their participation. The Title I Supervisor and the Parent Facilitator will work closely with parents to ensure that their voices are heard and they are provided with a variety of opportunities to be actively involved with educating the children of the district.

2. What actions have the district taken to involve parents in the joint development of its district parental involvement plan?

The district meets with the parental involvement committee annually in the month of May. During this meeting, we review and revise the district parental involvement plan. Agendas, summaries, and sign-in sheets will serve as documentation. Suggestions from PTO members and surveys will be used to provide input. Parents will receive a copy of the plan in the Student Code of Conduct Handbook.

3. What actions have the district taken to involve parents in the school review and improvement process?

Parents are involved in the school review and improvement process by serving on the School Improvement Team, Parental Involvement Committee, and attending informational meetings held throughout the year to provide input. Parents will be invited to all school improvement team and parental involvement committee

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meetings to offer suggestions, participate in data review, and strategic planning. Agendas and sign-in sheets will serve as documentation.

4. How does the district build the capacity of school staff and parents in Title I schools by providing guidance, training, and support for the planning, implementing, and evaluating effective parent involvement activities such as developing School-Parent Compacts, event planning, contributing meaningfully to a SIP team or evaluating the Parent Involvement Plan?

The district Title I Supervisor and the Parent Facilitator will assist the schools in planning activities such as Fall Orientation, Fall and Spring Open House, family nights, literacy nights, and parent meetings. The Parent Facilitator will also issue newsletters to inform parents about state assessments, new curriculum, instructional strategies, ways that they can get involved at the school and how to use the available resources to help improve student achievement. The district will meet regularly with school staff to organize and implement parental involvement activities. District representatives will be available at PTO meetings and other formal and informal parent meetings at the school to share ways in which parents can be involved at the school. Parental involvement activities will be evaluated based on feedback from parents, teachers, and district leaders.

5. Are there any federal or state programs (such as Head Start, Reading First, or state-operate preschool) in which the district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies, and describe how the district will facilitate a coordinated or complimentary approach?

The district will invite Head Start, Pre-K, Reading First/ELFA to meetings, workshops, and other parent activities for planning and integrating parental involvement strategies. The district along with other groups will participate in shared parental involvement activities such as Open House, Orientation, Head Start and Pre-K Round Up, Grandparents' Day and closing activities (Fun Day and Awards Day).

6. What methods will the district use to involve Title I parents in conducting an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the district's Title I parental involvement policy and recommending revisions to the district based on feedback from a broad representative base of parents?

The district holds an annual meeting in the month of May each year with the parental involvement committees to evaluate the effectiveness of the parental involvement plans. The committees will review, revise and assist in the development of the plan. Information will be gathered from parent groups, telephone contacts, surveys and home visits to include others in the evaluation process.

7. How will the district, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents in understanding state testing and accountability topics?

The district and schools conduct a meeting in the fall semester to cover required Title I topics. The district assists schools in planning workshops and parent conferences to train parents on interpreting and understanding state testing and accountability topics. The district assists the schools in planning GEE, LEAP, iLEAP and End of Course informational workshops. Newsletters and individual test scores are sent home to the parents to provide additional information. Telephone contacts and home visits may be made to ensure that this information is available to parents that face barriers to participate and transportation may be provided. Student score reports for iLEAP, LEAP, and End of Course are given to students to share with their parents as soon as they are released by the Louisiana Department of Education.

8. How will the district, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement?

Workshops, meetings and conferences will be held to train parents on how to help improve their children achievement. Newsletters and websites will provide information about testing and tutoring programs. The district will post additional

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information on the district web page to assist parents in helping their children with testing (PASS, Newton's Classroom, EAGLE, End of Course Test, ACT and Practice Test). We have computers in the Parent Center for parents and students to use during the day and after school. Home visits will be made to share information when needed.

9. How will the district, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents?

The district will partner with LASIG and other agencies to provide training to educate teachers, principals and staff in how to communicate with and work with parents. The district will plan and implement the trainings in the beginning, middle and at the end of the school year.

10. How will the district support schools in integrating and coordinating parent activities within and among schools and programs, including any resources that will be shared to support parent involvement, such as parent resource centers, computer labs, meeting rooms, etc?

We will plan together and share the schedule of events and encourage parents to participate in planned activities. We will communicate through fliers, newsletters, newspaper articles, websites and the phone call system.

11. How will the district ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is easy for parents to read and understand, includes alternative formats, and is in a language parents understand, whenever practicable.

The district ensures that the information is sent out in a language that is easy for parents to read and understand. Supervisors, principals and several teachers will review the information is conveyed in that manner. Suggested changes will be made before it is sent home. In addition to written notice, telephone

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communication will be made through Ed Connect. In the event that a family whose primary language is not English or Spanish, the Title I Supervisor will make every attempt to secure a translator and provide the faculty and staff with English Language Learner training.