

## **AFTON ELEMENTARY TITLE I PARENT POLICY**

It is our goal to have a strong partnership with all our parents here at the elementary. In a shared working relationship we can together increase student achievement and develop positive attitudes about self and our school. Parents are an essential resource in the learning process of their children.

Afton Elementary School welcomes parental involvement in the annual review and revisions to our policy. We will have an annual review the first of the month during September. This will allow time for notification of meetings to both teachers and parents. Notification will be placed on the school calendar for September and the weekly bulletin. We also try and place the annual Title I meeting in the paper which will show time and place of meeting. During our annual meeting we try to approve or make changes in the Parent/Teacher compacts, Parent Involvement Partnership Policy, Revisions in district and site plans. We also discuss our Title I programs, Parents Right to Know, our evaluation process, the curriculum and academic assessments.

Throughout the school year we offer early afternoon as well as evening meetings on conferences so that teachers and building principals can answer any concerns or questions that parents may have. We are hopeful that this schedule might accommodate most parents.

If and when parents make comments or concerns about our district policy we address them directly to our superintendent or site level administration will take up the concern with the superintendent and let him know who made the concern so contact can be made.

Afton Elementary School reviews parent teacher compacts each year. We have compacts signed at the beginning of each school year by parents, students and teachers.

Elementary school provides weekly bulletins so that parents are informed. The bulletin provides breakfast and lunch menus, list of activities and the when and where of the activity. We keep parents informed of grades by sending out weekly eligibility. All parents can access their child's grades and homework on home based computer through the Afton website.

Afton Elementary School will offer to the extend practical services that is appropriate and beneficial to parents and their children in any of the following:

Parents and/or children that may have to be:

1. Limited English Proficient
2. Disabled or with disabilities
3. Migratory
4. Homeless
5. Neglected or Delinquent
6. Risk of Dropping out

Other agencies which may provide services will be identified. A plan will be developed which defines goals, objectives, service models, tools of collaboration and evaluation procedures. Evaluation of the plan and modifications of elements will be an ongoing process.

Afton elementary staff wants to provide leadership in the development of clear avenues of parental involvement.

## PARENTAL PARTNERSHIP POLICY STATEMENT

It is the goal of Afton School District 1026 to "develop strong partnerships with the home." Parents and schools working as partners increase student achievement and develop positive attitudes about self and school.

The key factor in the home-school partnership is the relationship between the teacher and the parent. Teachers are professionals who manage a variety of instructional resources. Parents are an essential resource in the learning process of their children. Organizational support from the school board, district administrators and building principals enables teachers to effectively develop the partnership.

The intent of this policy is to result in consciously doing those things already in practice in a more efficient, consistent and effective manner as well as generating new ways of strengthening the partnership.

The partnership between home and school will be supported by:

1. The development of an infrastructure to continually assess, plan and implement strategies that build the partnership.
  - a. A district-wide committee of parents, teachers and administrators to build overall program efforts and serve as a home school partnership network.
  - b. Coordination of activities through the staff development system in areas of teacher inservice, assessment of teaching strengths and communication with parents toward creation of the best possible learning experience for each child.
2. Self-study of parental involvement practices by teams of parents, teachers and the administrator in each school using the following seven basic principles considered essential to home-school partnerships.
  - a. Every aspect of the school climate is open, helpful and friendly.
  - b. Communications with parents (whether about school policies and programs or about their own children) are frequent, clear and two-way.
  - c. Parents are treated as collaborators in the educational process, with a strong complementary role to play in their children's school learning and behavior.
  - d. Parents are encouraged, both formally and informally, to comment on school policies and to share in the decision making.
  - e. The principal and other school administrators actively express and promote the philosophy of partnership with all families.
  - f. The school recognizes volunteer participation from parents and the community at large.
  - g. The school recognizes its responsibility to forge a partnership with all families in the school, not simply those most easily available.
3. Resources will be provided to principals, teachers and parents by the Parent Partnership Liaison.

## PARENTAL PARTNERSHIP POLICY STATEMENT (Cont.)

Afton School District, it's School Board, and staff will provide leadership in the development of clear avenues of parental involvement. Full realization of the partnership will be achieved through the on-going commitment and active participation by both home and school.

## TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Schools receiving federal ESEA funds are required to have a parent involvement policy. This sample policy can be used as the basis for the joint development of a policy, as required by the federal legislation. This policy cannot be the district's policy without some parental involvement in its development at the local level.

The Afton Board of Education endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents of Title I eligible children in all aspects of the program. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school, and community. In this policy, the word "parent" also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child's education.

Pursuant to federal law, the district will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parent involvement policy.

A meeting of the parents of participating Title I students will be held annually to explain the goals and purposes of the Title I program.

Parents will be given the opportunity to participate in the design, development, operation, and evaluation of the program for the next school year and to participate in planning activities, to offer suggestions, and to ask questions regarding policies and programs. Parents will be encouraged to attend the meeting and to become involved.

In addition to the required annual meeting, at least three (3) additional parent meetings shall be held, at various times of the day and/or evenings, for parents of children participating in the Title I program. Notices will be sent to the parents and articles will appear in the local newspaper advising parents and interested persons of the meetings. These meetings shall be used to provide parents with:

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 decisions relating to the education of their children; and
4. The opportunity to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program, to the district level.

## TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT (Cont.)

Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

The parents of children identified to participate in Title I programs shall receive from the school principal and Title I staff an explanation of the reasons supporting each child's selection for the program, a set of objectives to be addressed, and a description of the services to be provided. Parents will be advised of their children's progress on a regular basis. Opportunities will be provided for the parents to meet with the classroom and Title I teachers to discuss their children's progress. Parents will also receive information and training that will assist them in helping their children at home and at school.

Each school in the district receiving Title I funds shall jointly develop with parents of children served in the program a "School-Parent Compact" outlining the manner in which parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement in meeting state 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 children in the Title I program to meet the state's academic achievement standards;
2. Indicate the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, monitoring television watching, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their child's education and positive use of extracurricular time; and
3. Address the importance of parent-teacher communication on an on-going basis, with at a minimum, parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents, and reasonable access to staff.

REFERENCE: P. L. 103-382, Improving America's Schools Act  
P. L. 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

NOTE: Districts with more than one school participating in a Title I program may wish to consider the establishment of a district-wide parent advisory council.



## TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT (REGULATION)

In order to achieve the level of Title I parent involvement desired by the board of education policy on this topic, these regulations guide the development of each school's annual plan designed to foster a cooperative effort among the parents, school, and community.

### Guidelines

Parent involvement activities developed at each school will include opportunities for:

- volunteering;
- parent education;
- home support for child's education;
- parent participation in school decision-making.

The school system will provide opportunities for professional development and resources for staff and parents/community regarding effective parent involvement practices.

### Roles and Responsibilities

#### 1. Parents

It is the responsibility of the parent to:

- actively communicate with school staff;
- be aware of rules and regulations of the school;
- take an active role in the child's education by reinforcing, at home, the skills and knowledge the student has learned in school;
- utilize opportunities for participation in school activities.

#### 2. Staff

It is the responsibility of the staff to:

- develop and implement a school plan for parent involvement;
- promote and encourage parent involvement activities;
- effectively and actively communicate with all parents about skills, knowledge, and attributes students are learning in school and suggestions for reinforcement;
- send information to parents of Title I children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

#### 3. Community

Community members who volunteer in the schools have the responsibility to:

- be aware of rules and regulations of the school;
- utilize opportunities for participation in school activities.

#### 4. Administration

It is the responsibility of the administration to:

- facilitate and implement the Title I Parent Involvement policy and plan;
- provide training and space for parent involvement activities;

## TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT, REGULATION (Cont.)

provide resources to support successful parent involvement practices;  
provide in-service education to staff regarding the value and use of contributions of  
parents and how to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners;  
send information to parents of Title I children in a format and, to the extent practicable,  
in a language the parents can understand.