

FORT WORTH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ESEA TITLE I  
PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN

1. Purpose: To publish policies and procedures on parental involvement in the Fort Worth Independent School District.
2. Cancellation: All previous issuances on this subject are cancelled and superseded hereby.
3. References:
  - A. The Improving of America's School Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-382) which reauthorized ESEA (The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) ordered to be printed on September 28, 2004, Section 1118.
  - B. Department of Education Title I-Helping Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards, Title I Regulations (34 CFT Part 200) dated September 21, 1995, as amended.
  - C. Texas Education Agency issuance entitled Program Guide for Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies 1999-2000, updated, Chapter VIII.
  - D. Fort Worth Independent School District ESEA Title I School-Parent Compacts dated February 18, 1999.
4. Background: The Title I legislation and regulations require increased parental involvement and, in particular, the formalizing and documenting of this involvement. Parents are recognized for the critical role they have in child development and are to participate in decisions where parents are involved. Parent-School Compacts are encouraged, but parents cannot be required to sign agreements.
5. Requirements: The Local Education Agency through schools must provide documents to parents of children in ESEA Title I Project Schools that include the:
  - A. Convening of an annual meeting with parents of children participating in Title I activities as well as offering opportunities for regular meetings.
  - B. Explaining the schoolwide configuration used in all of the Fort Worth ISD schools.
  - C. Making Title I education personnel, including pupil services personnel, available to parents.
  - D. Disseminating information to parents in a language and form that they can understand.

- E. Employing of School-Parent Compacts on a voluntary basis, and
- F. Assessing annually the parent involvement component and making corrections as needed.

6. Implementation:

A. Principals of ESEA Title I Project Schools shall:

- (1) Convene an annual meeting at the building level to which all parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Notices should be sent out to all parents informing them of the meeting a minimum of ten (10) business days prior with a follow-up announcement approximately five (5) days before the meeting is to be conducted.
- (2) Keep an agenda and minutes for the annual parents meeting as well as records of other parent meetings when parent input is obtained and training provided. Forward copies of these documents to the Title I office.
- (3) Discuss and get support on School-Parent Compacts.
- (4) Provide legislative and regulatory documents including this document to parents as appropriate, and
- (5) Explain and get parent input on the ESEA Title I menus and selections related thereto.

B. ESEA Title I Teachers and Instructional Aides will:

- (1) Communicate with parents regularly on instructional issues involving their children.
- (2) Explain instructional strategies being employed.
- (3) Participate in annual and other meetings with parents, and
- (4) Cooperate fully in the schoolwide effort to improve the total school.

C. ESEA Title I Personnel will:

- (1) Provide information and guidance to ESEA Title I principals, teacher, and staff on Title I parental involvement requirements.

D. ESEA Title I will:

- (1) Budget and distribute Title I funds that support parental involvement activities.
- (2) Publish information on allowable costs and issues related thereto, and
- (3) Provide interpretations and clarifications on questions and/or issues.

7. Allowable Costs: Costs are authorized as follows:
- A. Personnel costs such as:
    - (1) Hiring, training, and using parental involvement liaison workers.
    - (2) Training of personnel, including pupil services employees, and
    - (3) When appropriate, training parents as classroom volunteers.
  - B. Materials and supplies for use in:
    - (1) Training sessions
    - (2) Reports to parents
    - (3) School-to-home complementary curriculum
    - (4) Information on school activities
    - (5) Solicitation of parental input
    - (6) Home-based instructional support items
    - (7) Administrative items required for record keeping and reporting
8. Coordination with the Adult Education Act: The Adult Education Act authorizes programs to improve the literacy skills of adults, many of whom are parents of children in Title I Project Schools. Title I resources, such as CAI laboratories, can be used to assist these parents. Experiences where parents and children worked together in the CAI lab setting have been productive and successful.
9. Level of Funding: One percent (1%) of the Title I Authorization will be set aside for parental involvement as required by law. These funds are distributed to Project Schools.
10. Restrictions: Limitations have been placed on use of Title I funds for parental involvement that include, but are not limited to:
- A. Parents may not be paid to attend meetings.
  - B. Payment for light snacks served to parents at Parental Involvement Meetings is authorized.
11. Parent Advisory Councils: Use of PAC's (Parent Advisory Councils) is optional. Principals in this District include parents in School Management teams and may use PAC's if these are useful in obtaining maximum parental involvement.