

## **Parent/Family Involvement Policy**

This policy has been developed jointly and in agreement with, parents of students enrolled in the District, including but not limited to, parents of students participating in the Title I program. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that parents can understand. This policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

It is the intent of the Board that parents of SCPS students are provided with frequent and convenient opportunities for full participation in decisions regarding the education of their children. Accordingly, each school shall develop and implement a Parent/Family Involvement Policy. This policy shall be developed jointly with, and distributed by the school to, parents or guardians. Where a language barrier exists, the policy will be translated to family's native language. A copy of each school's policy shall be posted in the school's administrative office and a copy shall be kept on file in the SCPS Central Office.

### **DISTRICT SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM**

The District, starting with District Administration, Central Office staff and the Board, shall create and maintain a responsive and welcoming atmosphere for parents and families which shall include but not be limited to:

- supporting parents and families as advocates and partners for lifelong learning and as decision-makers and active participants in school issues and programs;
- assisting parents, families and guardians in acquiring knowledge and skills to support their students' learning;
- working closely with and encouraging collaboration among District support programs (Family Resource/Youth Service Centers, Adult Education/Family Literacy, Pre-school, Gifted & Talented, Title 1) to provide support services for children and their families;
- encouraging the development of and support for a volunteer program in each school, and;
- assisting schools in identifying those areas where professional development is necessary in helping teachers, administrators, and staff to work effectively with families; and, assist schools in providing the opportunity for that professional development.

### **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Each school shall write and implement a school parent/family involvement policy. This policy shall be developed jointly with, and distributed to parents of participating students. Title 1 schools shall include a school-parent compact developed in keeping with legal requirements. Each school's policy shall:
  - include methods that will be used to promote purposeful school-to-home communication;
  - identify ways in which parents can be involved as leaders and decision-makers in school issues and programs; and,

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### **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)**

- identify support programs through which parents and families may receive support and assistance.
2. Each school shall provide evidence of an effort to reach families that are underrepresented in school settings, have transportation or child care problems, lack the confidence or time, and/or have limited literacy or limited English language skills. This effort can be demonstrated through the involvement of the Family Resource/Youth Service Center, the Title 1 Program Coordinator, the Migrant Coordinator, the volunteer coordinator or other support staff.
  3. Each school shall schedule an annual meeting for families that is convenient and offered at times that are flexible. These meetings shall provide:
    - an explanation of the school's mission and beliefs;
    - a description and explanation of the school's curriculum;
    - a description and explanation of the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress;
    - an explanation of the proficiency level students are expected to meet, and;
    - a description and explanation of all school programs, family involvement initiatives, and the parents' rights to be involved in decisions related to the education of their children.
  4. Each school shall provide flexible opportunities for participation in planning, review, and improvement of school programs including, but not limited to, the Title 1 program.
  5. Each school shall conduct an annual evaluation of its parent involvement policy with the results being used to amend the policy if needed. The results of the evaluation, and any subsequent changes in the policy, shall be shared with the Superintendent and Board.

A copy of each school's parent involvement policy and accompanying checklist shall be kept on file in the Central Office.

### **REFERENCES:**

Section 1118 of Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) of 1994  
P. L. 107-110 (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)  
[KRS 158.645](#), [KRS 158.6451](#)

### **RELATED POLICIES:**

03.112, 08.1345, 09.11

Adopted/Amended: 05/27/2009

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