

## 6.12—PARENTAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - SCHOOL

\_\_\_\_\_ School understands the importance of involving parents and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ School shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to

1. Involve parents and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPIY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
3. Explain to parents and the community the State's content and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the assessments and how parents can work with the school to improve their child's academic achievement;
4. Provide parents with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent involvement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents;
6. Keep parents informed about parental involvement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;
7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
8. Find and modify other successful parent and community involvement programs to suit the needs of our school;
9. Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents;
10. Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities as parents may reasonably request.

To help promote an understanding of each party's role in improving student learning, \_\_\_\_\_ School shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising

student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

\_\_\_\_\_ School shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary to adequately reach parents of participating students, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parental involvement, and the parents right to be involved in the education of their child.

\_\_\_\_\_ School shall, at least annually, involve parents in reviewing the school's Title I program and parental involvement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

**Notes:** If your school receives Title I assistance, NCLB requires you to have a school policy covering parental involvement for the parents of students served under the program. Because your school is required to "develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written parent involvement policy," this model policy is designed to be a starting point to be used in the development of your final policy. The NCLB Act requires the basics of the introduction and the last four paragraphs as well as items #1 – 6 and #10. Items #7 – 9 are proposed in the act, but not mandatory. Act 603 of 2003 along with several subsequent amendments (A.C.A. §§ 6-15-1702, 1703, and 1704) require each district to develop a parental involvement plan (rather than a policy) in collaboration with parents. The law is very detailed, and full of "shalls" going far beyond the requirements of this policy required by NCLB. Be sure to have the law handy when working out the details of your district's parental involvement plan.

The "compact" is also required to be developed jointly with parents of the children served under Title I.

The US DOE has correctly opined that this policy (and policy 6.11) are of no use unless accompanied by an implementation plan. Consequently, the ADE's ACSIP office requires schools to have such a plan.

Legal References:        20 U.S.C. § 6318 (b)(1) (NCBL Act of 2001, Section 1118)  
                                  20 U.S.C. § 6318 (c)(1),(2),(3),(4) (NCBL Act of 2001, Section 1118)  
                                  20 U.S.C. § 6318 (d) (NCBL Act of 2001, Section 1118)  
                                  20 U.S.C. § 6318 (e)(1),(2),(3),(4),(5),(6),(8),(9),(10),(11),(13),(14) (NCBL Act of  
                                  2001, Section 1118)

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