

## **Findlay City Schools Title 1 Parent/Family Involvement Policy**

### **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Findlay City Schools put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents/families in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents/families of participating children.

- Consistent with Section 1118, Findlay City Schools will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental/family involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent/family compact consistent with Section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Findlay City Schools will incorporate this district-wide parental/family involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental/family involvement requirements, to the extent, Findlay City Schools and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents/families with limited English language, parents/families with disabilities, and parents/families of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents/families understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title 1, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents/families of participating children, the school district will submit any parent/family comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the Ohio Department of Education.
- Findlay City Schools will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental/family involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental/family involvement means the participation of parents/family in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

  - *That parents/families play an integral role in assisting their child 's learning;*
  - *That parents/families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child 's education at school;*
  - *That parents/families are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child*

## **DESCRIPTION OF FINDLAY CITY SCHOOLS' PARENTAL/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

Findlay City Schools will take the following actions to involve parents/families in the joint development of its district wide parental/family involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:

- Include parent/family representation on the District Leadership Team
- Include the Findlay City Schools Parent Mentor as needed in the planning process

Findlay City Schools will take the following actions to involve parents/families in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Include parent (s)/families in the strategic planning process
- Include parent/family representation on the District Leadership Team

Findlay City Schools will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title 1 schools in planning and implementing effective parental/family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- Title One teachers will meet regularly with Title One Coordinator in order to provide support for designing parental/family involvement activities
- A shared file will be housed on the district server in order to share materials, best practices, and activities to foster parental/family involvement

Findlay City Schools will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents/families, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental/family involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents/family in parental/family involvement activities with particular attention to parents/families who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English language, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. Findlay City Schools will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental/family involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental/family involvement, and to revise (if necessary and with the involvement of parents/families) its parental/family involvement policies.

- Findlay City Schools will hold an annual meeting to invite parents/families to contribute to the Title 1 programming
- Each school in Findlay City Schools will conduct a parent/family survey in order to foster parent/family involvement and to seek ways to improve parent/family involvement.
- Title 1 teachers will participate in parent/family-teacher conferences in order to develop relationships with parents/families in order to increase parent/family involvement.
- Fostering and encouraging parents/families to participate in the education of their child, as well as providing information on how to do just that.
- Coordinating and integrating, as appropriate, parent/family involvement programs/activities.

- Ensuring, as much as possible, information sent home is in the language and form parents/families can understand.
- Using community resources in parent/family involvement.
- Removing barriers to parent/family attendance at parent/family activities (child care, disability accessibility, transportation, home visits, etc.).
- Offering school volunteer opportunities

Findlay City Schools will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental/family involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents/families and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents/families, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:

- Findlay City Schools will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents/families of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described.
- The state's academic content standards
  - teachers and administrators will review the state standards with parents/families at Open House, conferences, and through communication throughout the school year via classroom/school communications
- The state's student academic achievement standards
  - teachers and administrators will provide information and explanation of the academic achievement standards through conferences, online resources, and communications throughout the school year
- The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - teachers and administrators will provide information and explanation of the academic achievement standards through conferences, online resources, and communications throughout the school year
  - the Findlay City Schools Parent Mentor will be included as needed
- How to monitor their child's progress
  - teachers and administrators will provide support and explanation for monitoring student progress through parent/family meetings, sample monitoring methods, regular communications, and providing results from classroom performance
  - Assisting parents/families in their understanding Core Content State Standards and student performance standards and the state and local assessments so that parents/families can monitor and support their student's learning.

Findlay City Schools will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents/families work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental/family involvement by:

- Conducting parent/family involvement/literacy nights
- Provide parent/family friendly materials to aide in helping children with the expected skills

- Meeting with parents/families in order to help them understand methods to help in their child's academic success
- Provide newsletter and other communications to provide continuous interactive training opportunities

Findlay City Schools, with the assistance of its schools and parents/families, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents/families as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents/families, and in how to implement and coordinate parent/family programs and build ties between parents/families and schools by:

- Participating in professional development opportunities to learn how to improve parent/family involvement by sharing best practices
- Create a district wide folder on the Findlay City Schools server to share information to improve the implementation of parent/family programs

Findlay City Schools will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent/family programs, meetings and other activities, is sent to the parents/families of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/families can understand:

- Title 1 teachers will review materials with parents/families at parent/family-teacher conferences
- Schools will hold a parent/family night where they will be present to explain the materials and support parents/family as needed
- General Title 1 information will be uniform through all schools and presented in user friendly language and format

## **DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

Findlay City Schools will strive to involve parents/families in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training to:

- Provide necessary literacy training for parents/families
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental/family involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents/families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- Provide resources to train parents/families to enhance their involvement in their child's education
- Maintain open communication and training opportunities through regular newsletters and/or additional materials

In order to maximize parental/family involvement and participation in their children's education Findlay City Schools will:

- Offer to conduct home visits
- Vary the times of meetings to meet the needs of working schedules
- Conduct phone conferences
- Provide a resource packet if a face to face meeting is not possible
- Provide parent/family nights to foster a welcoming and safe atmosphere

#### **ADOPTION**

Findlay City Schools as developed this District Wide Parental/Family Involvement Policy to foster parent/family involvement in Title 1 schools. It is the goal of this policy to include, inform, and foster quality relationship with parents/families who have children involved in Title 1 programming.

Adopted 7/17/2017