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## **Talbot County Public Schools Title I Parent Involvement Plan**

Parent involvement efforts should be aimed at developing a climate of open communication and trust whereby parents are welcomed and viewed as an integral part of the education process. School personnel should recognize and value the role of parents as the child's first and most influential teacher and that parents should be involved in their child's education. Community involvement is important for supporting and enriching the educational environment. To support this the Title I office will:

- I. Involve parents in jointly developing, reviewing and revising the Title I Parent Involvement Plan which is part of Talbot County's Master Plan.
  - At least annually, invite parents from each Title I school to review, provide feedback, and revise the district-wide Title I Parent Involvement Plan.
2. Provide coordination and technical assistance to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance.
  - Maintain a district membership in the National Network of Partnership Schools and distribute information to schools.
  - The Title I Parent Liaison will visit each Title I school regularly, hold multiple parent meetings to develop the school based plan, monitor and implement the plan and/or provide technical assistance to school staff as needed.
3. Provide assistance to parents in understanding Maryland's academic content and student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, Title I requirements as well as how to monitor a child's progress and to work with educators to improve student achievement.
  - Maintain and update TCPS website including information on Title I, state academic content and achievement standards, and state and local assessments.
  - Include the NCLB Title I requirements in the annual materials which are distributed at the Annual Title I meeting, school newsletters, and with the parent compact information.
  - Post copies of the Talbot County Public School Title I Parent Involvement Plan at each school and on each schools website for parents to view.
  - Provide *Power School* access to parents, giving parents web-based access to monitor their child's attendance, discipline records and grades.
4. The Title I Office, through the efforts of the Title I Parent Liaison, will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement.

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- At least annually, administer the Title I Parent Interest Survey to help identify and design workshops that encourage and support parental involvement.
  - Provide tips for parent on how to support student learning at home on the TCPS website and in monthly school newsletters.
  - Annually provide information to parents regarding the annual regional Parental Information Resource Center conference.
  - During each semester, ensure that parent outreach activities are held at varied times (day and evening) focused on reading, math, science, Maryland State Assessments, and/or technology.
5. Educate instructional staff, with parental assistance, in the contributions of parents and how to reach out and communicate with parents as equal partners.
- Include Title I parents on the district Citizens Advisory Committee to the TCPS Board of Education. This committee reviews all policies and communicates the impact of policies upon the lives of families and instructs the Board on how to work more effectively with families.
  - Conduct a yearly comprehensive Superintendent's parent evaluation survey. Parents are asked to evaluate every aspect of the school system and all aspects of their child's education, including parental involvement. Parents are also asked to rate priorities for the next budget cycle. Data is broken down by school as well as reported by district. This instrument is utilized to facilitate parental instruction of school staff on how to work with families and teach their children more effectively. The survey is available in Spanish as well as English and is posted on the website.
  - Analyze data from the Title I parent survey and the district parent survey to identify suggestions for professional development topics for faculty and staff on how to communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
  - The Title I Parent Liaison will assist the school staff to host parent walkthroughs in all Title I buildings to check on the school culture regarding parents as visitors and volunteers. Information from the walkthroughs will be shared and discussed with school improvement teams.
6. The Title I office in coordination with the Judy Center, located on the Easton Elementary School campus, will coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other programs (Head Start, Early Head Start, public pre/k, private preschool and child care) that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
- The TCPS Title I Specialist serves on the advisory board of the Judy Center.
  - Provide monthly parent workshops and provides transitioning activities for families as the children move from community early childhood programs into the EES school.
  - Coordinate early childhood services for families and also sponsors summer programs for preschool age children so that services are in place year round.
  - Provide transitioning activities at Tilghman and White Marsh Elementary Schools for incoming Pre/K and Kindergarten students.

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7. Written communication will be provided to parents, to the extent possible, in a language and format they can understand and translated appropriately.
8. The Title I office will pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
9. Maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting telephone conferences between teachers and other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school.
10. The Title I Parent Liaison will meet with each school's Title I parents to hold focus groups at a variety of times, including both day and evening, to gain parent advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
11. School level data from the Superintendent's Parent Evaluation Survey will be utilized by the District Title I office to determine technical assistance offered to the school regarding parent involvement components in their school improvement plans.