

East Alton District # 13 Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The **East Alton District # 13** agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents 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, including the process of school review and improvement under section 1116, will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents 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 understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 of the ESEA as the parents may requests.

- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:
- *Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-*
 - (A) *that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
 - (B) *That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
 - (C) *That parents 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;*
 - (D) *The carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA*

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. **East Alton District # 13 schools** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1118 of the ESEA:
 - (A) **District will provide all Title I schools with surveys to evaluate parental involvement needs.**
 - (B) **District will involve the District Improvement Team/CASA along with parents to help develop and implement the District Parental Involvement Policy.**
 - (C) **The District Improvement Team will annually evaluate and revise the District Parental Involvement Plan as needed.**
2. **East Alton District # 13 schools** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - (A) **District will take annual surveys at Parent-Teacher Conferences to evaluate parental involvement activities and needs.**

- (B) **Each Title I School in the district will review the evaluations, and meet with parents to discuss results.**
- (C) **Parents on the School Improvement Team will review yearly progress data and make revisions to the School Improvement Plan to reflect specific school needs in collaboration with the School Improvement Team.**
- (D) **Staff, teachers, and parents will complete yearly surveys to evaluate the progress of school improvement plan implementation.**

3. **East Alton District # 13 will** provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

- (A) **The district will inform all Title I schools and parents of money available for parental involvement activities and solicit parents' advice on expenditure of funds.**
- (B) **The district will ensure that each Title I school develops appropriate plans for annual Title I parental involvement activities to be approved by the district.**
- (C) **Private schools (if applicable) will be advised on their allocations and need to expend budgets on parental involvement activities.**
- (D) **The district will assist Title I Schools and parochial schools in implementing activities through the provision of resources, technical assistance, and assistance from staff. (Not applicable at this time)**

4. **East Alton District # 13 schools** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, Lunch Bunch, and Reading Buddies programs by:

- (A) **The district will involve Head Start in helping parents and students make the transition to kindergarten.**
- (B) **The district employs a district social worker to assist parents in helping their children to succeed in school upon request.**
- (C) **The district will provide all parents will a list of all local area network providers to assist them in child rearing and socio-economic problems which impede success in school upon request.**

- (D) **The district will provide assistance from the Community Resource Centers in counseling, referrals, and resources, and other social or psychological needs of families.**
- (F) **Parents and community members will be invited to participate in programs such as Family Literacy Nights, etc. to mentor students and help them with reading and other academic endeavors.**

5. **East Alton District # 13** will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, and annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged and disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its parental involvement policies.

- (A) **In its annual survey evaluation, the District will examine any impediments toward implementing the plan with particular attention given to language barriers and homeless families.**
- (B) **The District will employ surveys to study changing needs and alter plans to meet those needs.**

6. **East Alton District # 13** will build school and parent capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of the Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –

- The state’s academic content standards,
- The state’s student academic achievement standards,
- The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- The requirements of Part A,
- How to monitor their child’s progress, and
- How to work with educators

- (i) The district will continue an annual registration day where information will be disseminated including: the allocation of NCLB funds; resources available to parents, and websites and literature available to parents to help them promote their child's success in school.**
- (ii) The district will conduct annual Open Houses and Parent-Teacher Conferences to encourage parents to become involved in their children's learning as well as to explain new and existing programs and resources.**
- (iii) The district will provide websites to assist parents with homework help and to communicate school news.**
- (iv) The district website will also provide a list of parent help resources to assist parents in the academic and social endeavors of their children.**
- (v) The district will provide professional development to staff to encourage increased parental involvement and to provide strategies for doing so.**
- (vi) The district will, when necessary, in-service parents on new programs through workshops and literature provided to them.**
- (vii) The district website will provide information and access to an overview of academic programs, curriculum, and learning standards. It will also communicate information about RtI and NCLB.**

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- (i) The district will provide literacy and technology training as needed, to parents to help them better work with their children in school.**
- (ii) The district will provide training on the use of district technology such as websites, homework sites, etc. in an effort to make these more user friendly and effective.**

- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:
- (i) **The district will utilize professional learning communities to research effective ways to encourage parental involvement.**
 - (ii) **The district will study building communities and the capacity to provide better partnerships with our parents through research and the study of best practices.**
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Even Start, and Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, public preschool, and other programs. The school will also conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in increase participation in the education of their children, by:
- (i) **The district will cooperate and work with Head Start and local preschools to coordinate better transitions to school and more preparedness for students who enter kindergarten by holding bi-annual meetings with these partners and opening our schools for them to visit**
- E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- (i) **The district will disseminate information in a clear format, using multiple languages where required.**
 - (ii) **The district will use multiple ways to disseminate information including: district and school websites, flyers, brochures, e-mails, and phone calls as necessary.**

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICTWIDE, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

This district will work in partnership with community resources including the East Alton Police Department, CASA, East Alton Recreation Center, local hospitals and other such organizations

in the dissemination of information and delivery of instruction to parents in matters such as child development, drug prevention, and academic success in school.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District Wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by school improvement committee membership files. It will be posted on the internet for review prior to final approval.

This policy may be adopted by the Board of Education of **East Alton District # 13** on **August 18, 2015** and will be in effect for the period of the 2015-16, 2016-17 school years until it is revised. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before the first day of school each year.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)