

BERTIE MIDDLE SCHOOL

TITLE I PARENT ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Pursuant to federal law, the district and the parents of students participating in Title I district programs have jointly developed the following parent involvement policy. The policy shall be implemented by the principal or designee according to the timeline set forth in the policy and incorporated into the school's Title I plan.

INVOLVEMENT WITH TITLE I PLANNING

The school shall hold an annual meeting for parents of students in Title I programs, as well as school Title I staff, principals of schools receiving Title I funds and other interested persons to discuss the Title I program plan, review implementation of the Title I plan, discuss how Title I funds allotted for parent involvement activities shall be used and invite suggestions for improvement.

SCHOOL SUPPORT FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The school shall provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist in building the capacity for strong parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

This coordination, assistance and support shall include:

- Development of School protocols for appropriate roles for community based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities
- Adoption of goal in the school improvement plan to model approaches to improving parent involvement at the school level
- Allocation of school resources to parent involvement activities

The school, with the assistance of parents, shall develop and implement a district professional development plan to enhance the skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in:

- The value and utility of contributions of parents
- How to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners
- Implementing and coordinating parent programs
- Building ties between parents and the school

Coordination of parent involvement activities with other school programs

The school shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their students. The guidance counselors and the school social worker will have the primary mission of coordination and scheduling parental events. In addition, the teachers will cooperate with the PTSO to reward, acknowledge and celebrate with students and parents.

STUDENT LEARNING

The school shall coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs in the district. The purpose of this coordination shall be to improve the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who:

- are economically disadvantaged
- have disabilities
- have limited English proficiency
- have limited literacy
- are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- are parents of migratory children

Bertie Middle School will use a variety of activities including (Book Fairs, Media Advisory Board, School wide Celebrations, Parent Workshops, PTSO, 21st Century Learning Community Learning Centers and the PBIS Program to promote positive behavior).

The school shall provide to parents, as appropriate, information to help them understand the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor students' academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of students. The school shall develop written materials and training for staff to help parents work with students to improve student achievement. Students are assembled at the beginning of the school year to discuss the information the Student's Handbook and the County Code of Conduct. Students are reminded biannually in the classroom by the administration of state and local standards of achievement. Student led conferences are held to ensure parents are aware of their child's progress and the goals that have been set for them. Progress reports are issued every three weeks for all students in attendance. Several Connect-Ed Messages are delivered each month to ensure that parent and others are kept informed.

SCHOOL-BASED PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Parents will be an integral part of their child's Personal Education Plan.
- Parents will be encouraged to join the school's PTSO.
- Parents will be contacted at various times during the year by teachers and these contacts will be recorded (Parent Contact Logs).

Parents will be invited to all school athletic and special events. These invitations will normally be made through the Connect-Ed program. The Guidance counselor and Social Worker will schedule quarterly parent meetings. Parents are welcome to visit the school and staff during appropriate times (planning, administration anytime). Parents are encouraged to volunteer to serve students at the school. Parents are a part of school based committees and are full partners in the decisions that affect children. Community resources will be sought to advance to the learning of all students in the school.

METHOD OF COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS

All information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities shall be sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

ANNUAL EVALUATION

The school shall conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy. Effectiveness shall be measured in part by improvements in student academic achievement and in school performance.

The evaluation shall specifically address barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by law, particularly by parents who:

- are economically disadvantaged
- have disabilities
- have limited English proficiency
- have limited literacy
- are of any racial or ethnic minority background
- are parents of migratory children

The school shall use the finding of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, this policy.

The school shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL-LEVEL TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY AND SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

Bertie Middle School receives Title I funds and will jointly develop with and distribute to parents of students participating in the Title I program (hereafter referred to as "parents") written School-Level Title I Parent Involvement Policy agreed upon by the parents in accordance with the requirements of federal law.

The policy shall contain a school-parent compact or agreement that outlines how parents, school staff and students will share the responsibility of improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students.