

**Title I District-School Parental Involvement Policy**

**PART I.            DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS**

Each district must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. *[Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]*

The Saddle River School District/Wandell School 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 programs. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- The school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its district plan.
- In carrying out the Title I, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the district plan for Title I 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 schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I allocations greater than \$500,000.)
- 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.*

- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

**PART II.                      DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS**

1. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parental involvement plan.

- *Ensure lines of communication are open by ensure parent contact information is updated annually*
- *Hold the required annual meeting*
- *Staff will be available during parent conferences and on individual basis as needed*
- *Attend monthly parent association meetings*

2. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

*Annual meeting will be held a half hour before Back to School Night*

3. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

*Identified needs will be addressed and supports will be provided, on an individual basis*

4. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

*Ongoing parent communication, staff meetings, data analysis of student performance, etc. will ensure identified needs are addressed*

5. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, 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 its Title I 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,

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- The requirements of Title I,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators

*School/District staff will attend annual workshops for ESSA/Title I and information will be disseminated accordingly.*

The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.

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

*Having administrators/staff will be available to work with parents on how to help students improve their achievements. Resources will be distributed where necessary.*

C. The school/district will, with the assistance of its Title I 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:

*Attending parent organization meetings and be available to meet with parents individually*

D. The school/district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by;

*Hosting multiple preschool/kindergarten and other supplemental grade level programs throughout the year which parents will be invited to attend*

E. The school/district will take the following actions to ensure that Title I 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;

*Distribute the School/Parent Compact, hold our annual Title I meeting, and continue to monitor progress throughout the year.*

6. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following programs: [Response to Intervention], by:

*Student academic profiles will be created to ensure strengths/weaknesses are identified so that the RTI teacher(s) can work with students on their specific needs.*

7. The Saddle River School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I 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, are 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.

*Since we will be starting our first year with this program, we will take any and all feedback from all stakeholders and review student growth throughout the year.*

8. The Saddle River School District/Wandell School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

*Surveys, where necessary, will be distributed to parents/stakeholders*

9. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local education agency.

N/A

### **PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

*Parent involvement is not a concern for our school district. Parents are extremely supported and involved in their child's education.*

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**PART IV. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

The District/School Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

N/A

**PART V. ACCESSIBILITY**

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

N/A

**PART VI. ADOPTION**

This District/School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.

This policy was adopted by the Saddle River School District/Wandell School on August 28, 2019, and will be in effect for the period of 2020-21. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children.

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Signature of Title I Authorized Representative

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(Date)