

## DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

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*Last Reviewed by Committee 3.10.2014*

The Binghamton City School District 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 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 requirements of section 118 (b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- ✓ The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan.
- ✓ 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 school district's plan 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 the how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserve for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- ✓ 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.*

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- 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. carrying out of other activities, such as Parents as Teachers.*

Furthermore, the district will implement the required components as follows:

1. The Binghamton City School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan by committing to:
  - a. Holding at least one annual meeting to review, revise the existing plan.
  
2. The Binghamton City School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of ESEA:
  - a. Parents will be seen as essential components of the development of school-wide plans, and included in the planning process at each school.
  
3. The Binghamton City School District 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. Request programs descriptions and time-lines for implementation of parental involvement activities during the summer prior to the start of each school year.
  - b. Emphasize the importance in making sure program activities are accessible to all parents and provide opportunities for parents to develop their parenting skills as their child's first teacher.
  - c. Review the parental involvement requirements with each building's administrative staff, at a minimum, bi-annually.

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4. The Binghamton City School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following programs: Parents as Teachers and Universal PreKindergarten (UPK).
  - a. Parent Educators are assigned to UPK classrooms, and provide direct program support in both the classroom and the home.
  
5. The Binghamton City 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, 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 disadvantages, 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, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents its parental involvement policies).
  - a. An annual survey of parents will be conducted at the building level at the start of each school year. This survey will:
    - i. The degree and effectiveness of parent involvement at the school.
    - ii. Inquire the extent to which the following have occurred, and allow for parents to communicate successes and barriers.
  
6. The Binghamton City School District will build the school's and parent's 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.

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- a. The school district will, with the assistance of its 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.

Through the support of both district and building efforts the following activities specifically will be conducted:

- i. Annual dissemination of End of the Year/Course requirements for reaching proficiency in each core content subject area.
  - ii. Dissemination of the new Common Core.
  - iii. Opportunities to review and understand their child's report card, the schools report card as presented by the New York State Education Department, and graduation requirements.
  - iv. How to access their child's report card and daily attendance via the school district's student management system.
- 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. Continue to support Technology Mentor positions as sources of personnel to train parents in the use of technology in the home.
  - ii. Provide professional opportunities for staff in their understanding in how to work with and support parents.

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- 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. Review the requirements of title I parental involvement programs bi-annually.
  - ii. Provide resources for schools to access when developing parental involvement programs.
  - iii. Seek funding to expand on existing or create new opportunities for parental involvement.
  
- 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, 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:
  - i. Including representation from the above noted programs on the District Parental Involvement Committee.
  - ii. Disseminate community offerings in parenting skills to parents through the schools.
  
- 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, by:
  - i. Posting communications, such as SINI letters, Parents Right to Know information, and other information as required in the district's three main languages.
  - ii. Post materials regarding building-level parent involvement events in the district three major languages.
  - iii. Make available, upon registration and annually at Curriculum/Open Houses, it know that parents may request information in alternate formats upon request.

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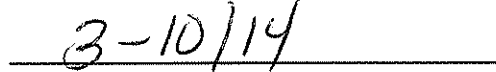
**DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY: POLICY ADOPTION**

This Binghamton City School District-wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

This policy was adopted by the Binghamton City School District's *Parent Involvement Committee* on May 21, 2013 and will be in effect for the period of May 21, 2013 through May 21, 2014. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children by posting it on the district's web-site. The policy will again be reviewed after completion of its next annual review.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Thompson", written over a horizontal line.

(Signature of Authorized Official)

A handwritten date "3-10/14" written over a horizontal line.

(Date)