

ASPEN ACADEMY

Adopted: November 17, 2015

Revised: _____

612.1 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY FOR TITLE I PROGRAMS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and facilitate involvement by parents of students participating in Title I in the educational programs and experiences of students. The policy shall provide the framework for organized, systematic, ongoing, informed and timely parental involvement in relation to decisions about the Title I services within the school district. The involvement of parents by the school district shall be directed toward both public or private school children whose parents are school district residents or whose children attend school within the boundaries of the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. It is the policy of the school district to plan and implement, with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children, programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of those parents in its Title I programs.
- B. It is the policy of the school district to fully comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6318 which requires the school district to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs written parental involvement policies.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Title I" is defined as a compensatory education program sponsored by the federal government aimed at providing remedial support to students in reading and math. Buildings qualify for Title I services if their free and reduced lunch rates match or exceed the district average.
- B. "Parent" is defined as a person or persons who look after and /or are legally responsible for a child who is a student at Aspen Academy.

IV. COMMUNICATION

The school board is committed to establishing and supporting planned and systematic two-way communication between the school district and its staff, students, parents, and community members. This policy will provide direction for the communication activities

between Title I schools and parents.

- A. Annual meeting opportunities will be held for parents and children. The Title I school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening to facilitate parental involvement.
- B. Title I schools will provide information to Title I families at a Parent/Teacher Conference. The Family-School Compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.
- C. As a component of this policy, the school shall jointly develop with parents a school/parent compact which outlines how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact shall:
 - 1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to meet state student academic achievement standards;
 - 2. Describe the ways each parent will be responsible for supporting his or her child's learning by monitoring school attendance and homework completion, monitoring television watching, volunteering in his or her child's classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to his or her child's education and use of extracurricular time.
 - 3. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through the use of:
 - a. Annual parent-teacher conferences to discuss the compact and the child's achievement;
 - b. Frequent progress reports to the parents; and
 - c. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate in the child's class, and observe in the child's classroom.
- D. Title I schools will communicate with parents in a variety of ways and times throughout the school year. They will identify special needs of parents, such as parents of students with limited English proficiency, and provide meaningful communication for these parents. Parents will be encouraged to visit their child's classroom. Reasonable access to the school staff will be provided.
- E. Information about standardized test results and Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment and CTP results will be provided to parents in the same academic school year as the test is administered or by the next conference date on the school district calendar.

V. PARENTING

This policy will encourage high student achievement by sharing this responsibility between home and school.

- A. Parents will be notified of workshops and other programs that meet the needs expressed by parents.
- B. The Family-School Compact will be developed with input from families and will articulate the responsibilities parents, students, and schools share for students' success in achieving the state's high standards.

VI. DECISION-MAKING AND ADVOCACY

- A. The advisory committee is comprised of school district staff and parents who represent the school and the public. The purpose of this committee is to accomplish the following:
 - 1. Preview and provide input into this policy;
 - 2. Disseminate information to parents;
 - 3. Be available to answer parents' questions; and
 - 4. Review the school district's Title I Program.

VII. VOLUNTEERING

Title I learners are best served by the active participation of all parents and citizens of their community. Volunteers help individualize instruction, promote school and community interaction, support school activities, provide multi-generational and multi-cultural experiences, and enrich the curriculum for all learners. The school district encourages the involvement of volunteers.

VIII. COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents and community to improve academic achievement, Title I schools will

coordinate with similar other programs, such as Aspen Community Council, community education services and English Language Learners.

IX. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.