

Parent Involvement Policy

Three Points Elementary School is a Title I School. Three Points has adopted the OCPS Title I Parent Involvement Policy as Three Points Title I Parent Involvement Policy. Three Points distributed this policy to families attending the Winter Music Program on Wednesday, December 6, 2006. The next day a copy of the Parent Involvement Policy was sent home with students and given to all staff members. Copies were made available to parents in our front office.

On January 25, 2007, the School Advisory Council met and agreed to adopt the Parent Involvement Policy.

We know that our school is successful because of our partnership activities with our parents. We welcome parent involvement and want to keep parents informed about our school policies.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, please contact Theresa Williams, Title I Contact.

Revised 11/13/06

Orange County Public Schools
Title I Federal Programs

School Parent Involvement Policy #2

In addition to an Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) parent involvement policy, each Part A participating school must *jointly develop with*, and *distribute to*, parents of participating children a written Title I parental involvement policy, *agreed upon* by these parents, that describes the

Note: The first draft of this School Parent Involvement Policy #2 was approved by representatives of Title I schools at a Parental Involvement Technical Assistance Meeting in December, 2006. A draft of this policy was composed by various Title I school representatives and distributed to all schools for appropriate input prior to the adoption.

means for carrying out school-level policy, sharing responsibility for high student performance, building the capacity of school staff and parents for involvement, and increasing accessibility for participation of parents with limited English proficiency or with disabilities. This School Parent Involvement Policy was created by representatives of Title I schools at Parental Involvement Technical Assistance Meetings in November, 2006. The Orange County Public Schools Parental Involvement District Advisory Council (PIDAC) decided to conduct a quick review annually, and a detailed review would be conducted biennially. The School Parent Involvement Policy was distributed to all Title I schools for the purpose of:

1. Obtaining feed back regarding changes, additions, deletions, etc. and,
2. Deciding whether to adopt this policy at their school or create a new one.

It is important to understand that the involvement of families in their children's education is not limited solely to attendance at PTA meetings or volunteering at school. What parents do at home with their children is even more important to the total educational effort, and schools need to let parents know that they value both their contributions at school and their participation at home.

The law indicates that if a school has a parental involvement policy that applies to all parents, it may amend that policy, if necessary, to meet the Part A parental involvement requirements.

I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

Orange County Public Schools agree to implement the following requirements:

- Put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its Title I schools. These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
 - The school district will work to ensure that each Title I school has a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(b).
 - The school district will incorporate its parental involvement policy into its LEA plan.
 - To the extent possible, the school district and its schools will provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. This will include, but not be limited to providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent possible in a language parents understand.
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- If the LEA plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan to the State Department of Education.

- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I school in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parental involvement is spent.
- The school district will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement, and 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 to ensure:

- (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 and home;
- (C) that parents are included as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

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

Part II.

Description of How District Will Implement Required District Wide Parental Involvement Policy Components

1. The Orange County Public Schools District will take the following actions to involve parents in developing its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112:

Parental Involvement District Advisory Council Meeting (PIDAC) 2x a year
Title I Annual Meeting Student/Parent/Teacher Compact (Agreement)
Parent Teacher Association (PTA) School Advisory Council (SAC)
Parent Leadership Council (PLC)

2. OCPS will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116:

Annual Meeting	SAC/PTA Board Meetings
PIDAC Meetings (2)	Parent Focus Groups
Parent Workshops	Parent Leadership Council Parent Forums

3. OCPS will provide 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:

Parents as trainers	FCAT Family Night	Parent Workshops
School websites	Parent Calendars	Parent Newsletters

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Parent Resource Room Curriculum Nights Parent Book Club
Family Math/Science Night Parent Reading Night Multicultural Night
Connect Ed (OCPS Telephone communication System) Student Planners/Agendas
Partners in Print activities

4. OCPS will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I Schools under the following other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, First Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters and State-operated preschool programs by:

Newsletters Transition Programs (Pre-K to K & 5th to 6th) Connect Ed Flyers

5. OCPS will do 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 increased 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.

Title I Parent Involvement Evaluation Connect Ed
School Surveys (parents, teachers, students) Translators (personal or machines)

Principal will designate who will be responsible for distributing and compiling information from surveys.

6. OCPS will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership with the community, community-based organizations and businesses to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities:

A. provide assistance to Title I families as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following....

- **the State's academic content standards (ex. Orientation, FCAT Night)**
- **the State's student academic achievement standards (ex. Math/Science Night w/Orange County Science Center, Curriculum Night, Report Card Night, FCAT Explorer)**
- **the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments (ex. description of assessments in school newsletter, Title I Annual Meeting)**
- **the requirements of Title I Schools (Title I Annual Meeting, Parental Involvement Policy, Power Point Presentations, Transition Plan for Pre-K & 5th Grade)**
- **how to monitor their child's progress (Report card conference, Parent-Teacher conferences, Take home folders,)**

- **how to work with educators (Open House, 1st Days of School Celebration, Meet the Teacher Day, District Level Presenters for school work shops)**
- **Reading/Math/Science Conferences**
- **Science/Math Nights at School**
- **Orientation for 6th & 8th grade parents**
- **FCAT Night**
- **Title I Transition Plan (Pre-K & 5th Grades)**
- **School information - power point presentations**
- **Curriculum Nights**
- **Report Card Nights**
- **District level presenters for school workshops**
- **FCAT Explorer**

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 academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:

- **Offering meetings at a variety of times**
- **PIDAC meetings (minimum of 2xs per year)**
- **Family Involvement Advisory Council meetings**
- **Family Involvement Conference**
- **Provide transportation and child care for meetings**

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 and work with parents as equal partners in valuing the contributions of parents, and in implementing and coordinating parent programs to build ties between parents and schools, by:

SAC/PTA/PLC Family Involvement Conference Parent Surveys
Parent Forums Parent Trainers PIDAC Teach In
Family Involvement Advisory Council

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

VPK (volunteer pre-k) Connect Ed ESOL
YMCA After School Program Boys & Girls Club Extended Day Programs

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 the participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including

alternative formats upon requests, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

**Connect Ed Newsletters Websites Home work hot line K-12 Planet
Flyers Planners Students' incentives Parent/Teacher conferences
Home Visits School Programs Videos Posters/Signs/Bulletin Boards
School Marquee**

F. The school district will take the following actions to parents to improve their academic abilities in order to help their children be successful in school:

**Pajama Read-In FCAT Night Family Building Better Readers
Curriculum Night Adult Community Education Centers
Translators at meetings Home Visits Book Talks
Mysteries in the Middle Program Alternative Times/Sites for Meetings
Make & Take Workshops**

Part III

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Performance

NOTE: The school-parent compact is designed to increase the sharing of responsibilities between families and schools for the high performance of students.

What is a school-parent compact?

A compact is a written agreement of shared responsibilities that:

- Defines the goals and expectations and outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will work together and build a partnership to help students achieve high Florida academic standards.
- Translates the policies and goals of parents, students and schools into “action” statements.
- Serves as a guide for ongoing, better communication, interactions and exchanges between school staff, students and parents.

Why A Compact?

A compact provides the opportunity for developing strong school-family partnerships connecting families, schools and the communities to promote shared responsibility for the high performance of students. These partnerships can -----

- Improve school programs;

- Increase the skills and leadership abilities of parents;
- Provide family services and support;
- Maintain long-term improvement in student academic achievement; and
- Help teachers, parents and schools be more effective.

What a Compact Must Include

There is no required format or standard way to write a compact. A compact however, is required to -----

1. Describe a school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.
2. Describe the ways in which parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, volunteering and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
3. Address the importance of establishing ongoing, good communication between teachers and parents through, (1) parent-teacher conferences to discuss individual student achievement as it relates to provisions of the compact, (2) regular student academic progress (3) reasonable access to staff and opportunities to volunteer, observe, and participate in classroom activities.