

APPLETON CITY R-II

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY/PLAN

2021-22

The Appleton City R-II School is committed to providing quality education for every child in this district. We believe that engaging parents/families in the education process is essential to improving academic success for students. The district recognizes that a student's education is a responsibility shared by the district, parents, families, and other members of the community during the entire time a student attends school. The district believes that we must create an environment that is conducive to learning and that strong, comprehensive parent/family involvement is an important component. Parent/Family involvement in education requires a cooperative effort with roles for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the district, parents/families and the community.

The Elementary Schoolwide Title I Program will develop and implement a plan to facilitate parent/family involvement that shall include the following six goals:

1. Promote regular, two-way, meaningful communication between home and school.
2. Promote and support responsible parenting.
3. Recognize the fact that parents/families play an integral role in assisting their children to learn.
4. Promote a safe and open atmosphere for parents/families to visit the schools their children attend, and actively solicit parent/family support and assistance for school programs.
5. Include parents as full partners in decisions affecting their children and families.
6. Use available community resources to strengthen and promote school programs, family practices, and the achievement of students.

The Appleton City Elementary and Title I's plan for meeting these goals is to:

1. Provide activities that will educate parents regarding the intellectual and developmental needs of their children at all age levels. This will include promoting cooperation between the district and other agencies or school/community groups (such as PTO, School Volunteer Program, Head Start, Parents as Teachers) to furnish learning opportunities and disseminate information regarding parenting skills and child/adolescent development.
2. Implement strategies to involve parents/families in the educational process, including: Keeping parents/families informed of opportunities for involvement and encouraging participation in various programs; Providing access to educational resources for parents/families to use together with their children; Keeping parents/families informed of the objectives of district educational programs as well as of their child's participation and progress within these programs.
3. Enable families to participate in the education of their children through a variety of roles.

4. Provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent/family involvement strategies.
5. Perform regular evaluations of parent/family involvement at each school and at the district level.
6. Provide access, upon request, to any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
7. If practical, provide information in a language understandable to parents.

TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAM PARENT INVOLVEMENT

An Advisory Committee consisting of parents, Title I staff, elementary administration, additional elementary teachers, and members of the community will meet to develop our school's Parental Involvement Policy. Notification will be sent to all parents and community members encouraging them to participate in the development of the parent involvement policy/plan. The district and the parents of participating Title I children will jointly develop and agree upon a written parent involvement policy that will describe how the district will:

1. Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I program plan and in the process of reviewing the implementation of the plan and suggesting improvements.
2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
3. Build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
4. Coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with those of other educational programs.
5. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content of the parental involvement policy and its effectiveness in improving the academic quality of schools served. This will include 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, migratory status, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The district will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies.
6. Involve parents in the activities of the schools served.

COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES

An annual Title I parent meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year in conjunction with the first PTO meeting. This meeting will inform the parents of Title I requirements, a description of the program, student selection criteria, curriculum, budget and finance, review the Student-Parent-School Learning Compact, highly qualified teacher status, previous year's end of year parent survey results, and parent/child/school activity opportunities for the coming year. At this meeting the current Parent Involvement Policy and Plan will be offered to parents and

parents will be given the opportunity to become involved in revising the policy as needed.
Language translations will be made available as needed.

Additional school to home communication will be offered through:

- *Beginning of the year Parent Packet which includes information concerning the Title I Schoolwide Program & the Student-Parent-School Learning Compact.
- *Student Handbook distributed at beginning of year which contains Federal Programs Complaint Procedure and Parents' Right-to-Know.
- *Daily Planner Use
- *Individual teachers' weekly newsletters to parents
- *Monthly newsletter which includes Title I parent tips sent home with all students and made available to the community through deliveries and mailings. Also includes dates of upcoming school events.
- *Mid-quarter grades
- *Quarterly grades with scheduled parent conferences at end of 1st Quarter, additional physical and phone conferences available as needed or requested ----Title teacher(s) available for all conferences
- *Appleton City Journal and Little Apple articles including dates of upcoming school events
- *End of Year Title I Parent Evaluation sent home to all parents/guardians *An up-to-date school website which provides access to all school handbooks, board meeting minutes, and school calendars

Student Recognition:

- *Daily Morning Meetings
- *Daily Birthday Recognition
- *A/B Honor Roll
- *Perfect/Good Attendance
- *Rewards for Excellent State Assessment Scores
- *End of Year Awards Assembly
- *Student of the Month

Community/Parent/Student/School Involvement:

- *Regularly scheduled PTO meetings
- *Student Festival Days – Fall Fun, Christmas Activity, Valentine's Fun
- *Fire Prevention Week – Appleton City Fire Department
- *Red Ribbon Week
- *FFA – Food for America Day
- *Additional PTO educational programs
- *PTO sponsored class field trips
- *Golden Apples Dinner
- *Conservation Department – Poster Contest
- *Yearly Dental Screenings
- *Pup Squad

- *Bi-annual Library Book Fairs ---- Family Movie Night Events
- *Read Across America Events
- *K-12 Spirit Weeks ----- Homecoming/Courtwarding
- *MAP or State/District TESTING Spirit Week

Student Performance Events:

- *MAP/District Testing Success Performance
- *Christmas Program
- *Fine Arts Festival
- *Science Fair – Grades 4/5
- *Field Day
- *Young Authors
- *Conference Cupstacking

Transition:

- *Preschool Screening Assist
- *Kindergarten Walk-Thru in conjunction with Head Start and Parents As First Teachers
- *Kindergarten Screening in conjunction with Parents As First Teachers
- * Regularly scheduled visits to Head Start by Elementary Principal, Counselor or Title I staff

PARENT-STUDENT-SCHOOL COMPACT

Our school along with the parents share the responsibility for high student performance. The Learning Compact was developed by the Title I teachers with input from parents, discussion with students, and assistance from regular education teachers and school administration. Parents will receive the compact at the beginning of the school year from the school as a checklist of responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students will each have for ensuring academic success. It will be evaluated during the annual evaluation process and presented at the annual informational meeting or sent home with students along with any additional explanation.

BUILDING CAPACITY

A district-wide Elementary Advisory Committee will be involved in the process of school review and improvement. Parents will be a part of this group with the aim to evaluate the Title I program based on data collected in a variety of ways: home surveys and needs assessments, staff program needs assessment, school visits and observations.

This review will include how parental involvement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome. This will include altering days, times, and locations of parent meetings. The Parent Involvement Policy will be revised on the basis of this annual review.

Further relationships will be developed with Head Start and the Parents as First Teachers Program to increase transition into the school setting. The Title I Program will also encourage all parents to consider being actively involved in the local PTO, School Volunteer Program, CSIP and School Improvement Committee, or other School Booster Associations.

