

# WYOMING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Title I District Parental Involvement Policy

### PURPOSE

The Wyoming Area School District is committed to the belief that all students can learn and acknowledges that schools and parents share a commitment to the educational success of children. The district believes that the education of students is a joint responsibility shared with parents. To insure that the best interests of each student are served in the educational process, the district believes that a strong program of communication between home and school must be maintained. The district believes that the cooperation of school and home is a vital component in the growth and education of the whole child.

### DEFINITION OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Parent Involvement Policy is defined as an ongoing process that encourages the participation of Title I parents in meeting their basic obligation as a child's first educator. The district's policy will promote a clear dialogue between home and school and support parents as leaders and decision-makers concerning the education of their children at all levels. The district's Parent Involvement Policy will involve parents and educators in the establishment of educational goals and programs of the district's schools.

### GUIDELINES FOR DISTRICT PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

In accordance with Title I Part A developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, Wyoming Area School District will ensure that parents play an integral role in assisting their children's learning by becoming actively involved in the decision-making of their children's education. The district will involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA, and in the review and improvement process under section 1116 of the ESEA as outlined in the following guidelines of the district's Title I Parent Involvement Policy:

**The Wyoming Area School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the development of its district-wide parental involvement plan:**

- 1. At an annual Title I meeting the Parent Involvement Policy will be discussed with parents from each of the Title I schools. Parents will meet with the district reading supervisor and reading specialist within their school to plan, review and improve the present Parent Involvement Policy in place for the district's schools. Suggestions and concerns from parents will be addressed. At this time parents will also be informed of their school's participation in the Title I program. An explanation of the current policy and the parents' rights to become involved in any of the Title I activities will be discussed. The district and school Parent Involvement Policies will be included in each school's Student/ Parent Handbook, which is distributed to each student at the beginning of each school term. A form is included in the handbooks for parents and students to sign indicating that they have received and reviewed the handbook.**

**The Wyoming Area School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:**

- 2. At the annual meeting parents will be informed of current academic activities implemented within the district's Title I program. Parents can review, critique and make suggestions to be incorporated into the program. The district will also present to the parents an annual assessment of the academic progress of each Title I participating school as to whether the school is making adequate yearly Progress according to the state guidelines. This review will provide information that each school needs to refine the program of instruction to enable children to meet the state's challenging performance standards. The district will publicize and disseminate the results of this review in individual school performance profiles to teachers, staff, parents, students and community according to section 1116.**

**The Wyoming Area School District will provide the following necessary coordination activities to assist Title I Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student achievement as required in section 1118 of the ESEA:**

- 3. The district will provide opportunities for parents to receive technical assistance in adult computer classes offered within the district. The district's web site will also provide additional information on the district's professional staff, classroom activities, homework hotline and a listing of the Pennsylvania Academic Standards. A Parent-Student Guide will be distributed to parents at a meeting in the beginning of the school year concerning the academic standards to be taught in the curriculum of each grade level.**

Parents will be encouraged to become guest readers for classrooms within the district. The district will inform parents of training workshops and conferences designed for them to work with their child at home.

The Title I State Parent Advisory Council (SPAC) sponsors conferences for Title I parents. Workshop topics at these conferences focus on helping parents develop an awareness of the Title 1 regulations and how to work with their children at home to achieve academic standards. The district will pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

A component of this section will also be a Home-School Involvement Compact which is consistent with section 1118. Other parental activities within the district will include Parent-Teacher Organizations, Parent Volunteer Programs. Get Acquainted Night, Parent Teacher Conferences, parent training workshops, Family Reading Nights and school book fairs where parents can assist and participate. Parents will be encouraged to attend these activities and training sessions at the School.

The Wyoming Area School District will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school in becoming knowledgeable of the following topics which will be discussed and thoroughly explained in an understandable format:

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- State's Academic Standards
- State's student academic achievement standards
- State's performance standards (Advanced, Proficient, Basic, Below Basic)
- District's Reading Curriculum
- Monitoring of children's progress
- Working with educators to improve the performance of their child at home
- Requirements of Part A
- State Assessment and local assessments
- Title I program information and guidelines

The Wyoming Area School District will coordinate Title I parent involvement activities with other educational parental activities as stated below:

5. The district will, to an extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start and other educational programs. The district will encourage and support a cooperative on-going dialogue among parents of children who attend educational programs such as Head Start.

**The Wyoming Area School district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings and other activities are sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format:**

- 6. An annual evaluation of the Title I's program effectiveness will be conducted through a survey of the Title I parents. The Home-School Involvement Compact, which was developed by parents and educators, will be explained in detail as to how parents, staff and students will share responsibility for improved student achievement. These compacts will be signed by the teacher, parent and student. A copy of the signed compact will be placed in the student's Title I reading folder. An additional copy of the signed compact will be sent home to the parent/guardian of the child. Other communications between school and parents will include progress reports, memos and letters, phone conversations, e-mail communications and parent group meetings as needed where parents can offer their opinions and ideas about the Title I school programs and activities.**

**The Wyoming Area School District will use the findings of the Title I program evaluation survey to improve instruction in the following manner:**

- 7. The district will use the findings from the Title I annual evaluation survey to plan for the next school year's Title I program. Targeted strategies to increase parental/community involvement and improve Title I students academic achievement will be jointly- developed and implemented in the Parent Involvement Policy. Revisions of the current policy procedures will be made as needed.**