



Strategies to Increase Parental Involvement

Murphy High School

Mobile County Board of Education

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Introduction

All Title I Schoolwide and Targeted Assistance Schools must complete the following diagnostics: the Stakeholder Feedback Diagnostic, the Parent Involvement Diagnostic, the Coordination of Resource/Comprehensive Budget Diagnostic, and EITHER the Title I Targeted Assistance Diagnostic OR the Title I Schoolwide Diagnostic. Parent Survey must be done annually, but it can be done electronically or by paper.

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1. Describe how the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I and explain Title I requirements, including the 1% set-aside, and the right of parents involved.

During the first quarter that school is in session, Murphy High School will hold its annual meeting for all parents of participating children in the Title 1 Schoolwide Program. Parents are notified of the meeting through (1) the school phone messenger and (2) electronically and public postings. In addition, transportation and childcare will be provided, if it is requested.

2. Describe: 1) How there will be a flexible number and format of parent meetings offered; 2) How parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I Program (Note: State the school's process for how all Title I parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision-making.); and 3) How funds allocated for parent involvement are being used in the school.

(1) The leadership and staff of Murphy High School have a strong belief in the importance of parental involvement and therefore have put measures in place to offer parent meetings on a flexible schedule. Quarterly parent workshops will be held on a flexible schedule on an as needed basis to accommodate as many parents as possible. Parents are reminded of all events and opportunities through the school website, school messenger, Facebook, and email, if available.

(2) The process for how all parents have the opportunity for involvement in decision making is as follows: We have a parent liaison, who has been trained on Title 1, Part A, parental involvement, and parents' rights. There is a Parental Advisory Committee, which is repeatedly advertised for all parents to participate in. To be a member of the committee, contact with the Parent Liaison must be made, and you will be notified of the next committee meeting. The Advisory Committee keeps parents informed of various committee work and receives input from parents that is used in the meetings. They assist in evaluating the parental involvement plan, the school-parent compact, and the quarterly baseline data.

(3) Parental Involvement funds are used to fund materials in the parent resource center, monthly workshops, and anything else determined as needed by the Parent Advisory Committee. \$7,104.61 is allocated in Title 1 budget for parenting activities.

3. Describe how the school provides parents of participating children timely information in a uniform format and, to the extent practicable in a language they can understand, about programs under Title I, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, forms of academic assessments, and achievement expectations used, and, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and participate as appropriate in decisions related to the education of their children.

At parent meetings throughout the year, information will be presented about the school's Title 1 programs, the curriculum, and forms of academic assessment used. Parents also learn about academic goals and priorities in the classroom. They learn about how to schedule parent-teacher conferences and are reminded about how they can participate in decisions related to the education of their child. Interpreters and interpreted documents will be provided on a needs-based case.

4. Describe how parents, the school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement for participating students (How the School-Parent Compact is jointly developed with Title I parents; how it is used, reviewed, and

updated).

Revisions to the compact will be developed through a coordinated effort by school staff members and the school's Parent Advisory Committee. Parents will be given a copy of the new compact at the annual Title 1 parent meeting, at registration, or sent home with the student. The compact will be explained to the parents, and they will be asked to sign the compact, which signifies their commitment to working in partnership with the school ensuring that their child is successful in school. The compacts will be discussed with teachers at faculty meetings. Teachers will be given the responsibility to collect the compact from the student. The compacts will be housed in a central location, the Title 1 office, so they can be used for parent/student teacher conferences.

5. Describe procedures to allow parents to submit comments of dissatisfaction with the Continuous Improvement Plan.

In the spring of each year, the school's leadership team meets to review, evaluate, and revise its Continuous Improvement Plan. There are a minimum of two parents on the committee who represent all the parents of the school. During the review process, all parents are notified of the review through notices sent home and on the school website. The notices make parents aware that the plan is under review, that a copy is available in the Parent Resource Center for review, and that parents have the right to give their input regarding the revision of the plan. The notice also states that after the plan is finalized and approved, if a parent finds the plan unsatisfactory, they have the right to submit their concerns in writing to the school, and the school will submit their concerns to the Central Office.

6a. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide training for parents of participating children in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor their child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children. (Describe)

The school will accomplish much of this through its annual parent meeting to be held at the beginning of each school year. At that time, parents will receive an overview of the state academic content standards, academic achievement standards, and assessments. In addition, an explanation will be given regarding Title 1, what services will be offered, and how parents have the right to be involved in their children's education.

6b. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (Describe)

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The school's Parent Liaison will work diligently to ensure that all parent training and materials will be aligned with the goals of the school. Parenting classes will also be provided throughout the year on an add needed basis addressing various topics including, but not limited to, the college selection process, financial aid pointers, effective parenting, career planning, computer training for parents, and communication pointers.

6c. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall educate teachers, office personnel, and other school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school. (Describe)

The Parent Liaison will continue to work with teachers through in-services, faculty meetings, and grade level meetings to further develop the understanding of the importance of parental involvement and that parents are our partners. All staff is expected to welcome parents to the school, as appropriate, and to work with the parent manager in meeting parents needs for their children.

6d. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other federal 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.(Describe)

The Parent Liaison will maintain a parent resource center (in the Title 1 office-due to renovations) which will be available to all parents every school day. Parents will be encouraged to attend quarterly workshops and to communicate with their child's teachers on a regular basis. The school currently makes every accommodation for ELL students and parents to ensure that can engage and participate in Title 1 activities.

6e. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (Describe)

The Parent Liaison will work closely with the head of the ELL program to ensure that every meeting, flyer, and notice is in the native

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language of everyone in attendance to ensure effective communication.

6f. Describe how the school will build capacity for parental involvement including how parents will be encouraged to become equal partners in the education of their children? (See NCLB Section 1118, requirements for building capacity in parental involvement.)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, our school:

Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (Describe)

The school makes every effort to work with parents in meeting their requests as related to their involvement in their children's education. Parent surveys are conducted at the end of every year, and the results are used to make adjustments for the upcoming year. For example, parent workshop times are preferred in the evening, and email is the most preferred form of contact. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate every request to ensure strong parental involvement.

7. Describe how the school will ensure the provision for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students; including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.

The school has the availability of assistance in verbal communication in the form of translators, and with proper notification, any documents or notices will be translated for students and parents into their native language. Additionally, the school will make every attempt to accommodate students and parents with disabilities. Murphy High School will do anything and everything to accommodate its students and parents to ensure great parental involvement.