

Title I Schools

Parents-Right-to-Know

Children will no longer be left behind in schools due to the No Child Left Behind Law (NCLB). This new law took effect in January of 2002. Parents must be notified when their child is falling behind. Schools that do not improve or meet standards must use federal funds to get children extra help. This means that children must receive "supplemental services" such as tutoring, after-school programs, remedial classes or summer school.

Your Rights As a Parent:

<u>During the 2011-2012 school year</u>, schools are <u>required</u> to provide each parent the following information:

Notification of parents' rights according to the NCLB

Timely notification that your child has been taught more than four weeks by a teacher that is not highly qualified*

Notification that your child is placed in a program for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students

Your child's level of achievement on State Assessments i.e., ARMT, AHSGE

A written copy of the Local Educational Agency's Parental Involvement Policy

A written copy of the Local School Parental Involvement Policy jointly developed with parents

A school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the school and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement

Upon request, parents may receive the following information at the <u>beginning</u> of the 2011-2012 school year:

Qualifications of paraprofessionals that provide services to your children. i.e., aides

The baccalaureate degree major of your child's teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by your child's teacher and the field of certification or degree

Whether your child's teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status, i.e., state qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived

Whether your child's teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subjects taught

The right to transfer your child from a school identified for school improvement to another public school that has not been identified for school improvement or obtain supplemental services for your children

BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

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LEA PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Mobile County Public School System's Parental Involvement Programs, Activities and Procedures shall be planned and implemented to include meaningful consultation with parents of all students. The LEA and all schools shall be in accordance with the requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*.

Board approved for public hearing on June 10, 2003

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Parent Notifications 2011—2012



Superintendent Roy D. Nichols, Ed. D



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Mobile County Public School System Local Education Agency (LEA) Parental Involvement Plan 2010-2011

The Mobile County Public School System is committed to a quality education for all students. The Local Educational Agency (LEA) and all schools shall be in accordance with the requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001*. The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* was signed into law by President George W. Bush on January 8, 2002. This plan was developed in accordance with Section 1118 of the *No Child Left Behind Law*.

The Mobile County Public School System agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of NCLB. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b), and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118 9(d) of NCLB. This policy is jointly developed with parents and distributed to parents of participating children.

The school district will incorporate the district wide parental involvement policy into its Local Educational Agency (LEA) plan. This policy is jointly developed with parents, annually evaluated by parents and distributed to parents.

In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and required school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request in a language parents can understand.

If the Local Educational Agency (LEA) plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section III2 of NCIB is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education. A complaint procedure is in place to be used by complainants.

The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.

The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools 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, including ensuring...

- (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;
- (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of NCLB.

The school district will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

Central office personnel will coordinate/communicate regularly with administrators and teachers to keep them apprised of federal guidelines, testing information, professional development opportunities and other parenting issues in order to provide school personnel with information they need to communicate to parents. In addition, central office personnel will be available to meet with school personnel and parents as requested to provide technical assistance, support, and/or training. Central office personnel will provide assistance and support during scheduled site visits.

The Mobile County Public School System's Parent Advisory Council Committee which consists of parent from a representative number of schools will participate in decision making for the district while providing feedback from local schools regarding Parental Involvement and the district's Title I program. The district Parent Advisory Committee will meet quarterly. The Mobile County Public School System's website "For Parents" has information posted for all parents including the Parent Advisory Committee meeting dates and contact information for members. The district's quarterly "Parent Connect" magazine will provide information to parents and encourage parent involvement.

The school district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies through the Pre-Kindergarten, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), and Head Start Programs. Parents are encouraged to participate in all parental involvement activities that occur in the system. The school district will also offer the Effective Parenting Initiative (EPI) to support and assist parents to ensure academic achievement.

The school district will provide professional development for parents on how to effectively communicate with schools. Professional development will also be provided for teachers and staff on actively involving parents, teacher response time and parent communication. "Workshops on Wheels" will provide parent training at individual schools to address student achievement; workshops such as, test prep, partnership conferences, DIBELS, AHSGE, grade to grade transitions, etc.

Central office personnel will coordinate the parent-teacher-student partnership conferences that take place in the fall of each year. Parents are provided reports on their child's expectations and actual progress on various statewide assessments. Schools are expected to have 95% or better participation in parent-teacher-student partnership conferences.

The school district will utilize the Continuous Improvement Review process to identify barriers to greater participation and assess the effectiveness of the parental involvement plan, activities, procedures, and policies as they relate to continuous improvement of parent involvement in schools.

The school district will provide parent program managers to provide technical assistance to all Title I schools to ensure the implementation of effective strategies to improve parental involvement. Local schools may fund parent program managers or organizers to ensure the implementation of effective strategies to improve parental involvement.

Participating schools will submit quarterly baseline data reports to the central office to use in conjunction with the Continuous Improvement Plan so that it promotes more specifically the improvement of student academic achievement.

The school district's Office of Home-School-Community Involvement will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community. Volunteers are solicited from community organizations to act as mentors and tutors. The establishment of parent resource centers in participating schools is strongly encouraged by the school district along with a district Parent Resource Center. Statewide Parenting Day is celebrated each year in October is set aside as "Parental Involvement" month, with statewide parenting day celebrated on the third Monday.

The district's quarterly Parent University to communicate with and engage parents and families in small breakout sessions on how to be more involved as partners in the educational process of their children, will provide materials and training to parents of identified students with attendance, truancy and/or discipline concerns to decrease the number of school suspensions and/or referrals, also increase student attendance. This is a collaborative effort between the school district, Helping Families Early Warning Truancy Program and the Juvenile Court System of Mobile County.

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the district, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

*the State's academic content standards;

*the State's student academic achievement standards:

*the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,

*the requirements of Title I Part A;

*how to monitor their child's progress; and

*how to work with educators.

The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide the following support to further foster parental involvement: materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, the use of technology, as appropriate, and to further foster parental involvement, by:

*school performance profile data

*materials in a language parents can understand

*curriculum description and how student progress is measured

*schedules for partnership conferences

*a welcoming and supportive environment

*providing timely responses to parents' suggestions

*providing family learning nights and GED training

*literacy training

*technology training

*school performance profile data

The school district ensures that a comprehensive system wide process has been implemented for developing Continuous Improvement Plans (CIP). A local school committee is established and parents, community leaders, secondary students and appropriate school personnel are represented on this committee. Continuous Improvement Plans are reviewed and available for public review upon request.