

**Pine Bluff School District Title I Parental Involvement Plan
2015-2016**

**Dr. T.C. Wallace, Jr. Interim Superintendent
Bernice-Martin Russell, Federal Coordinator
Freddie Jolivette, District-wide Parent Coordinator**

**Pine Bluff School District Title I Parent Facilitators
2015/2016**

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The mission of the Pine Bluff School District is to equip all students with the skills and knowledge to realize their aspirations, think critically and independently, learn continuously and face the future as productive, contributing citizens. This mission is accomplished through open access to an adverse, innovative and challenging curriculum in a secure environment with a staff dedicated to excellence and empowered with the trust and support of our community.

According to the National Parent Teacher Association, decades of research show that when parents are involved in a child's education students have:

- Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates
- Better school attendance

- Increased motivation, better self-esteem
- Lower rates of suspension
- Decreased use of drugs and alcohol
- Fewer instances of violent behavior

The Pine Bluff School District utilizes the National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs based on Dr. Joyce Epstein’s framework and recognizes that a meaningful plan should implement activities in each level to ensure that all families can be involved in ways that work for them. Epstein’s six types of involvement are:

- **Communicating:** Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.
- **Parenting:** Assist families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level, and assist schools in understanding families.
- **Learning at Home:** Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.
- **Volunteering:** Improve recruitment, training, work, and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audiences at school or in other locations to support students and school programs.
- **School Decision Making and Advocacy:** Include families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy through Parent Teacher Association/Parent Teacher Organization (PTA/PTO), school councils, committees, action teams, task forces, and other parental organizations.
- **Collaborating with Community:** Coordinate resources and services for students, families, and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, as well as provide services to the community.

Key to Type of Engagement:

CM=Communicating

P=Parenting

SL=Student Learning

V=Volunteering

D=Decision Making/Advocacy

C=Collaboration

NOTE: Language directly from Section 118 of ESEA and related state statutes are provided as a reference from the law.

Part I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Each school district must establish the district’s expectations for parent involvement [Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]

The Pine Bluff School district agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The Pine Bluff 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 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the Pine Bluff School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school level parent involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118 (b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school/parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide Parental Involvement Plan into ASCIP as mandated by Act 1002 of 2011 which requires public schools in the state of Arkansas to implement a comprehensive plan for effective and efficient parent/community involvement.
- In carrying out the Title I parent involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Pine Bluff School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format, and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, 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.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 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 the ESEA.

- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the district's Title I Parent & Family Resource Center and the Parental Information and Resource Center in the state (PIRC).

**Part II. DISTRICT PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN
REQUIRED COMPONENTS**

1. Pine Bluff School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development/revision of its district parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA and to ensure that district expectations in Part I are met.

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
C, CM, D	Provide information & solicit input from parents, PAC members & the community about parental involvement policies & Parent Center resources	August, 2015- May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Increase communication with parents and improve the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities
C, CM, D	Convene Parent Involvement Committee to develop the district parental involvement plan for Title I schools. The plan will be disseminated on the district website, at Title I Meetings, Open Houses, Task Force meetings, back-to-school events, etc.	September 8, 2015 December 8, 2015, May 3, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities and increase communication with parents

C, CM, D	Convene parent involvement committee for annual Title I meeting in the spring to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program	June, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Parent Involvement Committee	Improve the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities
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2. The Pine Bluff School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM, C, D	Encourage parents to serve on ACSIP committees	August-September, 2015	Principals	Increase the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities
CM, D, C	Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement & disseminate data to parents, staff & the community	March, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Principals Parent Facilitators	Increase the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities and increase communication with parents

3. The Pine Bluff School District will provide the following necessary 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:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
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CM, P, SL	Provide parents with resources & training to support their children's academic achievement Note: Each Title I school will provide dates of trainings, topics, & facilitators	August, 2015-May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on expectations and involve parents in their child's education
CM, P, SL	Provide information to parents about the school's program and development and use of the School-Parent Compact	September, 2015	Principals Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on expectations and increase the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities
CM, P, SL	Interpret, communicate & utilize results of parent surveys to make recommendations & suggestions to Title I schools for parental involvement activities	April, 2016 - May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Increase the level of involvement of parents and increase the ability of parents to participate in decision making activities
CM, P, SL	Coordinate Parent Center Activities	July, 2015-June, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Strengthen the home-school connection by providing information to parents on how parents can help their children
CM, P, SL	Conduct site-based Parent Facilitators'	August, 25, 2015 October 6,	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Enhance understanding of effective

	Training Workshops	2015 December 8, 2015 February 23, 2016 May 3, 2016		parent involvement strategies and improve the ability of staff to work effectively with parents
CM, C, SL, P	Conduct district wide parental involvement staff development workshops	August, 2015	Dr. T.C. Wallace, Jr. Interim Superintendent Bernice Martin-Russell, Federal Programs Coordinator Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of staff to work effectively with parents
CM, C, D	Conduct Indistar workshops to principals and parent facilitators & monitor use of program for completion of parental involvement plans for Title I schools	August, 2015- September 2015	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of teachers to work effectively with parents
CM, SL, C, D	Provide flexible meeting times for parents during the mornings, afternoon & evenings & on the 2 nd & 4 th Saturday of every month to better accommodate parents of Title I schools	September, 2015- May, 2016	Principals Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on expectations and how parents can help their children
CM, SL, C, P	Conduct on-site visits to schools to observe & monitor parental involvement practices	September, 2015-May, 2016	Bernice Martin-Russell, Federal Programs Coordinator Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of staff to work effectively with parents

CM, P, SL, C	Provide academic parenting materials to parents at Parent Nights, Open Houses, etc. to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement	August 2015-May 2016	Parent Facilitators Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on expectations and how parents can help their children
CM, V, C, D	Assist with Parent Meetings/PTO & enable the formation of PTO organizations meetings in the development of parent engagement activities at each school	August, 2015-May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Principals Parent Facilitators PTA Presidents Parents	Increase the level of involvement of parents to become active in the decisions made at the school
CM, C, SL, V	Encourage parent/student academic participation in Knowledge Bowl	November, 2015-February, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve student and parent reading, art, science and history skills

4. The Pine Bluff School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: JCCSI Child Links (Parents as Teachers), HIPPY, TOPPS, etc. by:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
C, CM, P, V	Attend meetings and collaborate with JCCSI Child Links (Parents as Teachers), HIPPY, TOPPS, etc. to coordinate, integrate & strengthen school programs, family	October, 2015 November, 2015 December, 2015 February, 2016 March, 2016 April, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide opportunities and support a partnership for parents and community members to improve academic achievement

	practices & student learning			
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5. The Pine Bluff School District will take 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, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater 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.

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
C, CM, D	Convene parent involvement committee to conduct training workshops to involve parents of children served in Title I schools about how funds are reserved & spent for parental involvement	September 8, 2015 December 8, 2015 May 3, 2016	Parent involvement committee members Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide training strategies on how parents can help their children and increase the level of involvement of parents to become active in the decisions made at the school
CM, D,C	Develop, disseminate & share an annual parent survey/annual evaluation on district website & via hard copies	March, 2016 thru June, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Rodney Riles, Technology Coordinator Principals Parent Facilitators	To enhance understanding of effective parent involvement and create a climate conducive to parental participation
CM, SL	Employ ELA person	August, 2015	Dr. T.C. Wallace, Jr. Interim Superintendent	Provide a resource to non-English speaking

				parents
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1. The Pine Bluff School District will build the schools’ and parent’s capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph—
- 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 Part A,
 - how to monitor their child’s progress, and
 - how to work with educators:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM, P, SL	Provide Common Core Refrigerator Curricula, Benchmark Released Items, & ACT Aspire test items, etc. to parents to promote learning at home	Throughout the year	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Parent Facilitators	Provide information to parents on expectations and how parents can help their children/provide information to parents on the content standards
CM, P, SL	Provide PALs (Parent Assisted Learning) Packs to parents, churches & the community	Throughout the year	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on how to help their children
CM, C, P, SL	Encourage HAC training for parents	Throughout the year	Rodney Riles, Technology Coordinator Principals	Increase communication with parents; provide updates

			Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	on school functions
CM, P, SL	Develop informational Parent Center Educator Newsletters	October, 2015 March, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Wilma Allen, Parent Center Secretary	Provide information to parents on expectations and how parents can help their children
CM, P, SL	Provide academic resources to parents in Parent Store	December, 2015 May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Wilma Allen, Parent Center Secretary	Provide educational resources and manipulatives to involve parents in their children's education

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

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM, P, SL, D, C	Conduct Parenting Seminars & provide resources for parents to be better able to help their children achieve	Throughout the year	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of parents to work effectively with their child
CM, P, SL	Provide academic informational Packets to parents	Throughout the year	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on how parents can help their children
CM, P, SL	Provide summer information packets to parents to reduce the academic gap during the summer	May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to parents on how parents can help their children

CM, P, SL	Conduct Parent Center K-9 Literacy Initiative to encourage parent/student reading	October, 2015 December, 2015 March, 2016 May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Literacy Coordinators	Enhance parents' ability to support their child's reading
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C. The school district will, the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM, C	Conduct Professional development at school sites for District-wide staff development	August, 2015	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of staff to work effectively with parents
CM, C	Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by issuing Volunteer Resource Bucks	Throughout the year	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Patricia Johnson, VIPS Coordinator Principals Parent Facilitators	Provide an opportunity for parents and their children to experience the school situation in a positive and helpful manner while school staff may provide any needed assistance or encouragement
CM, C	Conduct Professional development to elementary & secondary principals & administrators about Indistar	August, 2015	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Improve the ability of building level principals to complete parent involvement plans

- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head JCCSI Child Links (Parents as Teachers), HIPPY, TOPPS, etc. and public preschool and other 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, by:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Contact Person	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM, C, SL	Collaborate with (health fairs, community play days, etc.) & distribute educational materials from JCCSI Child Links (Parents as Teachers), HIPPY, TOPPS & other agencies	August, 2015 – May, 2016	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide parent information and strategies of other programs

- E. The school district will take the following actions to endure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

Type of Engagement	Activity/Task	Timeline	Contact Person	Correlation to Student Achievement
CM	Explain ESEA flexibility to parents	TBA	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator Bernice Russell, Federal Programs Coordinator	Provide information to parents on statewide assessment system, standards, and other accountability measures
CM	Provide parenting	Throughout the school	Freddie Jolivette, Parent Coordinator	Provide information to

	materials to parents in other languages (upon request)	year	Bernice Russell, Federal Programs Coordinator	parents in their language so they can help their child
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PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

A. The school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- Providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonable available sources of funding for that training;
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children’s education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 118 as parents may request

NOTE: All of the above are integrated in Parts II and III of the district plan.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy was developed jointly with, and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.