

PARENT AND FAMILY AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Generally

The Albemarle County School Board (Board) recognizes that parents and families are children's first and most important teachers. When parent and families enroll their children in school, from preschool through high school, the responsibility of education and care is shared with the school and the community. Although parents and families are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment in the educational success of their children. Partnerships among families, schools and communities that are child-centered and family-strengthening can engage, guide and motivate students to be productive citizens in a global society.

In keeping with these beliefs and in support of the Albemarle County Public School's strategic plan, the Board will support the creation and expansion of collaborative partnerships with families.

For the purposes of this policy, Although research and existing federal, state and local policies use the term parent means parent or legal guardian under law. This policy is meant to provide opportunities for families to be engaged-s, we prefer to include families so that it is inclusive of children's primary caregivers who are not their biological parents, such as foster caregivers, grandparents and other family members.

This policy is not meant to create any legal entitlements where they do not exist. the education of each student is a responsibility shared by the school and the student's family. The Albemarle County School Board endorses the parent and family engagement parental involvement goals of Title I (20 U.S.C. § 6318) and Title III (20 U.S.C. § 7012(e) and encourages the regular participation by parents and family members of all children including those eligible for Title I and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) English Learner programs in all aspects of those programs.

In keeping with these beliefs, Albemarle County School Board cultivates and supports it is the intention of the Board to cultivate and support active parental involvement parent and family engagement in student learning. The Board supports the following practice: will will:

- Respect, value and involve parents and families as partners and decision-makers in school continuous improvement planning.
- Develop policies regarding school involvement with parents and families and distribute to parent and families the policy in language they can understand.
- Create parent -and family engagement activities that respect the various cultures, languages, practices and customs; and build relationships among parents, families and schools through bridging economic and cultural barriers.
- Promote consistent, appropriate, and effective communication amongst all students' parents, family members, and school personnel.

- Prepare parents and families to be meaningfully involved in meetings and discussions with administrators, teachers and staff.
 - Support Create welcoming and supportive school environments for parents and families that are child-centered and family-strengthening.
 - Consider Providing logistical support (e.g., transportation, childcare) so parents and families can participate in school-sponsored family involvement events.
 - Encourage businesses and industries to offer parent –and family-friendly policies that support parent -and family involvement in children’s school activities.
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- provide activities that will educate parents regarding the intellectual and developmental needs of their children. These activities will promote cooperation between the division and other agencies or school/community groups (such as parent teacher groups, Head Start programs, Bright Stars, Parents as Teachers program, et al.) to furnish learning opportunities and disseminate information regarding parenting skills and child/adolescent development
 - implements strategies to involve parents in the educational process, including:
 - keeping families informed of opportunities for involvement and encouraging participation in various programs
 - providing access to educational resources for parents and families to use with their children
 - keeping families informed of the objectives of division educational programs as well as of their child’s participation and progress with these programs
 - enables families to participate in the education of their children through a variety of roles. For example, family members may
 - provide input into policies
 - volunteer time within the classroom and school program
 - provides professional development opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent involvement strategies
 - performs regular evaluations of parent involvement at each school and in the division
 - provides access, upon request, to any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum

- ~~if practicable, provides information in a language understandable to parents~~

In addition, for ~~parent~~parents and families of students eligible for the English learner LEP programs, the Board ~~supports~~~~will~~ ~~will~~ informing such ~~parent~~parent and families of how they can be active participants in assisting their children

- to learn English;
- to achieve at high levels in core academic subjects; and
- ~~to~~ to meet the same challenging academic content and student academic achievement standards as all children are expected to meet.

Parent and Family Involvement in Title I Plan

The Albemarle County School Board endorses the ~~parent~~parent and family~~at~~ involvement goals of Title I (20 U.S.C. § 6318) and encourages the regular participation by ~~parent~~parents and family members of all children including those eligible for Title I and English learner programs in all aspects of those programs.

Parental Involvement in Title I Plan

The Board encourages ~~parent~~parents ~~and~~ family of children eligible to participate in Title I, Part A, programs to participate in the development of the ~~division's~~~~Board's~~ Title I plan. ~~They~~Parents may participate by attending meetings and/or providing input through surveys.

The Division encourages ~~parent~~parents and family of children eligible to participate in Title I, Part A, and English learner programs to participate in the process of school review and, if applicable, ~~school improvement as implemented by 20 U.S.C. § 2316~~ The development of support and improvement plans under 20 U.S.C. § 6311(D)(1) AND (2). ~~Parent~~Parents and family may participate ~~by~~ on School Improvement Teams, ~~Parent~~Parent -Teacher Organizations, and/or ~~parent~~parent and family meetings.

Division Responsibilities

The ~~Division,~~Division and each school ~~will:~~ ~~which~~ ~~which~~ receives Title I, Part A, funds, **WILL:**

- provides assistance to ~~parent~~parents and families of children served by the school or division, as applicable, in understanding topics such as Virginia's ~~challenging~~ academic ~~content~~ standards, ~~and student academic achievement standards,~~ state and local academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

- provides materials and training to help parentparents and families work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using ~~technology~~, technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parentparent and family involvement
- educates teachers, ~~pupil services~~specialized instructional support personnel, principals, other school leaders and other staff, with the assistance of parentparents and families, in the value and utility of contributions of parentparents and families and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parentparents and families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parentparent and family programs, and build ties between parentparents and families and the school
- ~~to the extent feasible and appropriate~~, coordinates and integrates parentparental and family involvement programs and activities with other federal, state and local programs, including private and public preschool that encourage and support parentparents and families in more fully participating in the education of their children
- ensures that information related to school and parentparent and family programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parentparents and families of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parentparent and families can understand
- ~~provides such other reasonable support for parentparent and family involvement activities as parents may be requested~~

The ~~Division~~Division and each school will: -that- which receives Title I, Part A, funds, MAYwillMAY:

- involve parentparent and families in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training
- provide necessary literacy training from Title I funds if the ~~district~~ division has exhausted all other reasonablyreasonable available sources of funding for such training
- pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parentparent and family ~~at~~ involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parentparents and families to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions
- collaborate with train ~~parentparents and families~~ to enhance the involvement of other parentparents and families

- arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and ~~parent~~parents and familys who are unable to attend such conferences at school in order to maximize ~~parent~~parental and family involvement and participation
- adopt and implement model approaches to improving ~~parent~~parent and family involvement
- establish a division wide ~~parent~~parent and family advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to ~~parent~~parental and family involvement in programs supported by Title I
- develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in ~~parent~~parental and family involvement activities

School ~~Parent~~Parent -and Family Engagement ~~Parental Involvement~~ Policies

Each school served under Title I, Part A, jointly develops with and distributes ~~shall jointly develop with and distribute~~ to ~~parent~~parents and family members of participating children a written ~~parental involvement~~parentparent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such ~~parent~~parents and families that ~~shall describe~~ describes the means for carrying out the following:

- convening an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all ~~parent~~parent and familys of participating children ~~are~~shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform ~~parent~~parents and families of their school's participation in Title I, Part A, and to explain the requirements of Title I, Part A, and the rights of ~~parent~~parents and families to be involved
- offering a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening. Schools may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services related to ~~parental involvement~~parentparent -and family engagement
- involving ~~parent~~parents and families, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I, Part A, programs including the planning, review, and improvement of the school ~~parental involvement~~parentparent -and family engagement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan under 20 U.S.C. § ~~6314(b)~~6312(b)(2), except that if a school has in place a process for involving ~~parent~~parents and families in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of ~~parent~~parents and families of participating children

- providing parentparents and families of participating children:
 - timely information about Title I, Part A, programs;
 - a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the ~~_____~~ achievement levels proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - if requested by parentparents and families, opportunities for regular meetings to ~~_____~~ formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions— relating to the education of their children, and responding to any such —suggestions as soon as practicably possible

- if the school-wide program plan under 20 U.S.C. § ~~6314(b)6312(b)(2)~~ is not satisfactory to the parentparents s-and families of participating children, submitting any parentparent and family comments on the plan when the division makes the plan available to the School Board

ParentParent and family and Family Parental Involvement in Allocation of Funding

ParentParents and family members of children receiving services under Title I, Part A, ~~will beare shall be~~ involved in the decisions regarding how funds provided under Title I, Part A, are allotted for parentparent and familya involvement activities.

Policy review

The School Board conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parentparents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under Title 1, Part A, including identifying

- barriers to greater participation by parentparents and families (with particular attention to parentparents and families who are economicallyeconomically disadvantaged, are disableds, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background);
- the needs of parentparentss and famiyfamily members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
- strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

Adopted: July 1, 1993
 Amended: February 22, 1999; September 26, 2013
 Reviewed: January 26, 2006

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-78

20 U.S.C. §§ ~~6312, 6316,~~ 6318

<u>Cross Refs:</u>	<u>AD</u>	<u>Educational Philosophy</u>
	<u>BCF</u>	<u>Advisory Committees to the School Board</u>
	<u>IAA</u>	<u>Notification of Learning Objectives</u>
	<u>IKA</u>	<u>ParentParental Assistance with Instruction</u>