

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Highland Schools are committed to the goal of providing a quality education for students in our district. In order to accomplish this goal, we wish to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone benefits if the school and the home work together to promote high achievement in our children. Neither home nor school can do an adequate job by itself. Parents play a critical role as their children's first teachers, and their support for their children and for the school is an essential factor to their children's success at every step along the way.

We recognize that some students may need the additional assistance available through the Title I program to reach those goals. The Highland School District desires to include parents in all aspects of our Title I program. The ultimate goal is a home-school partnership that will help our students succeed.

2. ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I PARENTS

At an annual meeting for parents, which will be held in the early fall, parents will be given information about Title I guidelines. They will be given copies of the current Parent Involvement Policy and will be given an opportunity to become involved in revising that policy as needed. Parents will be sent written notices regarding the date and time of this meeting.

3. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACTS

The Highland School District believes that the school must share responsibility with parents for high student performance. Each parent of a Title I student will receive a school-parent-student compact with a checklist of responsibilities that teachers, parents and students will each have for helping students achieve their goals. A copy of this document is attached.

4. TYPES OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways in which parents can become involved with their children's education. The Highland School District values the contributions from home and the community as well as those of the school. Reading to children at home and talking with them at a family meal are as important as volunteering at school or serving on school committees. Many types of parental involvement are needed in a school-home-community partnership that will help all our students become successful learners.

5. MATCHING PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Each year, the school district will assess the needs of parents and children in this community, through a variety of measures – including questionnaires sent home to parents - so that the Title I program will be tailored to meeting those needs. Workshops and other programs will be available to meet those expressed needs, and parents will be notified of such opportunities. Parents may contact the school district office at any time to express an interest in a particular workshop or to make suggestions.

6. STAFF-PARENT COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents will include a monthly school newsletter. There will also be notices or activity packets sent home with children, phone calls, conferences and home visits as needed. Parents are urged to take the initiative in calling their children’s teacher when they are concerned about a problem.

7. EVALUATION

In the spring of each year, a group of Title I parents will be involved in the evaluation of the program for that year. This assessment will be conducted in a variety of ways including visits to the school and observation of classes. It will also include an assessment of current parental involvement and, if needed, suggestions on how to increase that involvement. The school district will revise its Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

This commitment to family involvement has been approved by the School Board of Highland District #305 and will be followed by Title I supervisory staff as well as teachers.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Title I Federal Programs

ADOPTED: 5/10/04

AMENDED: