

Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Geary School District 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 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). 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) 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 policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- 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 school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA 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 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;

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The Geary School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

The school will send out a letter to all parents seeking their participation in the development of the plan. Our administrator, counselor, teachers and Indian Ed. Coordinator will also actively publicize the nature of the program and the importance of the plan.

2. The Geary School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

We will have publicized meetings seeking input and involvement from parents. We will emphasize the importance of their contribution and attendance.

3. The Geary 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:

The school will make the parents aware of academic needs and successful strategies to meet these needs. Parents will express frustrations and concerns and possible solutions. The school will offer guidance and an organized format of the concerns and strategies to solve these concerns. The school will provide explanations for education concepts that define or explain the formulation of the plan.

4. The Geary School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other Programs: Indian education, summer programs, and other Title programs, by:

Exploring the interworking relationships of all school programs and how they work together to support each other in their common goal to promote academic success. Meetings with parents in parent/teacher conferences, meeting cultural needs in Indian educ., tutoring in summer school and after school programs etc.. All contribute to student achievement.

5. The Geary 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 or 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.

We will look at student achievement, student attendance, and parent attendance and participation to determine the success of our plan to see what adjustments need to be made. Over 82% of our students qualify for free lunch. Our goal is to make school a pleasant and positive experience for parents as well as children. It is critical to create a non-threatening environment so parents will freely participate.

1. The Geary 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 –

Geary Schools will define the State's academic content standards known as the Priority Academic Student Skills (P.A.S.S.) We will make the curriculum standards available and explain that students achievement is assessed by the Criterion Referenced Test (CRT) that are based on the P.A.S.S. skills. Locally, Geary provides ongoing academic assessments in a variety of ways including but not limited to CRT, STAR reading, STAR math, Literacy First, Study Island, teacher made tests, textbook tests, and other. It is

important for parents to review and monitor their child's progress by speaking with the teachers regarding these assessments, reviewing assessment results, practice with the child on homework which is based on P.A.S.S., and practice reading with the child.

- 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:

Making computers available for all parents in the regular school day and in our after school program with assistants in their usage. .

We will also send home assignments, flash cards or any other materials they can use to foster their children's achievement. The school will be a friendly nurturing environment where parents will be welcomed to contribute to the success of their children.

- C. The school district will, with 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:

Seeking 100% participation by parents on parent conferencing days by providing staff development to improve our communication methods with parents and strengthen our relationships. Teachers will also orient parents on methods they can use to work with their children at home.

- D. The school district will take the following actions to ensure 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:

We will offer interpreters for any parents who do not speak English.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

- Involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- 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 1118 as parents may request.