

# **Selinsgrove Area Middle School**

## **School Parent Involvement Policy**

### **2014-2015**

Pursuant to federal law, the Selinsgrove Area Middle School and the parents of students participating in Title I district programs have jointly developed the following School Parent Involvement Policy. The policy shall be implemented by the superintendent or designee according to the timeline set forth in the policy and incorporated into the district's Title I Parent Involvement Plan.

- The school shall jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children a *school policy* of parent involvement procedures and activities, agreed upon by such parents that shall describe the means for carrying out meaningful parent involvement. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that parents can understand. It shall be updated periodically as needed. The school shall:
  1. Hold an annual parent meeting. All parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend to inform parents of their school's participation and to explain the requirements of parent involvement and the right of parents to be involved. Also, review and revision of this policy will take place at this time for the next school year along with suggestions from parents for improvement of the Title I program.
  2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening and other support as needed, available, or requested, as additional opportunities for parents to participate or submit comments.
- As a school, we believe in shared responsibilities for high student academic achievement. We shall develop with parents for all children served a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve. This compact will:
  1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction that enables children to meet the state's student academic standards and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning. The school will include the responsibility of students in their shared responsibility for high student academic achievement.
  2. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents through parent-teacher conference during which the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the child's achievement, through frequent reports to parents on their child's progress, and by allowing reasonable access to school staff and opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class or observe classroom activities.

- As a school, we believe in building capacity for involvement of parents and supporting a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve academic achievement. To achieve this, our school shall:
  1. provide assistance, as appropriate, to parents of children served in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and student achievement standards, state academic assessment standards, the curriculum in use at the school, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
  2. Provide materials and training, as appropriate, to help parents to work with their children to improve their achievement.
  3. Ensure that information related to school and parents programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents in a form, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
  4. Address barriers to parental participation, e.g., transportation, childcare, etc., on an individual needs basis, where they may be funded by Title I.
  5. Encourage parents to observe instruction and other school activities that involve his/her child within established parameters.
  6. Encourage parents to volunteer to be a member of the Title I Parent Advisory Council and to volunteer and help at school in their child's classroom when possible and appropriate.