

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY**  
**Title I, Part A**

**PART 1**      **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

The Malvern 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 the 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;
- (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 Malvern 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.

At the annual Title I meetings held at Malvern Elementary School and Wilson Intermediate School at the beginning of each school year, parents will be informed that their input on the Parent Involvement Plan is needed and encouraged. Parents will be given a chance to sign a form saying that they would like to be involved. Letters will be mailed and/or parents will be contacted by phone as to the site and time of the meeting. Every effort will be made to schedule the meeting when and where parents can be available.

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

Parents will be promptly provided written notice about the identification of the school for school improvement. The notice will be practicable and in a language that parents can understand. The following information will be included in the notice.

- a. an explanation of what the identification means, and how the school compares to other schools;
- b. the reasons for the identification;
- c. an explanation of what the school is doing to address the problem of low achievement;
- d. an explanation of what the district is doing to help the school address the achievement problem;

- e. an explanation of how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement; and
  - f. an explanation of the parents' option to transfer their child to another public school with transportation provided by the district or to obtain supplemental educational services for the child.
3. The Malvern 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. Each Title I school will be given technical assistance by the Federal Programs Coordinator as well as any assistance by outside agencies to include but not limited to the Arkansas Department of Education. Dawson Educational Cooperative will also be utilized as a resource for technical assistance.
  4. The Malvern School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:
    - Head Start
    - Even Start
    - Arkansas Better Chance
  5. The Malvern School District will 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. A Parent Survey will be distributed at the two (2) scheduled parent-teacher conferences. 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.
  6. The Malvern 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. Parents will be given the content standards and an explanation of these standards at school's Open House. An explanation of proficiency levels as mandated by the State is also given at Open House. The Iowa Test of Basic Skills and Benchmark Assessments are explained to include what grades are assessed and dates of assessments. Parents are urged to monitor their child's progress throughout the year on progress reports, report cards, and assessment results. Tips on how to work with their child's teacher to improve achievement are discussed.
- (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 available trainings, workshops, videos, and other materials through the Title I Parent Center located at Malvern Elementary School. The coordinator of the Title I Parent Center will conduct these trainings and/or workshops at a time and place where parents can attend. Materials and supplies will be made available to parents at the center to borrow and/or make-and-take.
- (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. Each certified employee will receive two (2) hours of parental involvement strategies annually. Each administrator will receive three (3) hours of parental involvement strategies annually.
- (D) The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Even Start, and Arkansas Better Chance and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Principals of the elementary school will meet with coordinators of early childhood centers as needed to discuss ways to involve parents after their child has entered public school. Parents will be given information about the availability of the Title I Parent Center, its location, and materials available to parents through this center.

- (E) The school district will take 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 requests, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Letters, newsletters, phone calls, advertising in the local newspaper and on cable television will be used to notify parents of upcoming events and activities.

**PART IV    ADOPTION**

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidence by agendas, minutes, and documentation of the meeting.

This policy was adopted by the Malvern School District on \_\_\_\_\_. The policy will be revised or updated as necessary. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children at the beginning of each school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Board President*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*