

Adopted: 10/25/216

Revised: _____

PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY POLICY No. 607 DEVELOPMENT OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

[*Note to user:* This is a placeholder policy and to be used as guidance for developing a parent involvement policy. Your particular needs will require you to development a parent involvement policy according to federal law.]

I. PURPOSE

PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY'S Board of Directors recognizes the importance of parental involvement and also recognizes its obligation to develop a parent involvement policy under the federal law for Title I programs.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY to plan and implement Title I programs, activities, and procedures with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children for the involvement of parents in the Title I programs. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY will develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs a written parental involvement policy which meets the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6318.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY

A. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY hereby directs administration to work jointly with parents of students, and the local community, to develop a policy and procedures that encourage, implement, and sustain efforts to achieve parental participation in the education of their children. The completed policy and procedures shall comply with the requirements of federal law.

B. Notification of policy. Parents of students enrolled in PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY will be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format. The policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

IV. REQUIRED POLICY COMPONENTS

A. The Parental Involvement Policy will:

1. Involve parents in the joint development of the school's Title I plan and the process of review and improvement;
2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the school in planning and implementing effective parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
3. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement as further described in this policy.
4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with other parental involvement strategies in other programs such as the Head Start program, Reading First program, Early Reading First program, Even Start program, Parents as Teachers program, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and state-run programs.
5. Conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy with the involvement of parents. Identify barriers to greater participation by parents including parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited in their English proficiency or literacy, or have a racial or ethnic minority background. The findings of this evaluation should be used to design strategies for more effective parental involvement.
6. Involve parents in the activities of the school served under this policy.

B. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY 'S Board of Directors will direct the administration of the school to develop and distribute a written parental involvement policy jointly and agreement with parents of participation children. The parental involvement policy will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents.

C. The parental involvement policy will describe how the school with a Title I program will:

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I including the right of parents to be involved.
2. Offer a flexible number of meetings which may include transportation, child care, or home visits to facilitate parent involvement.
3. Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I including the planning, review and improvement of the school parental involvement policy unless the school has a process in place for involving parents

in the joint planning and design of school programs which has an adequate representation of parents with participating children.

4. Provides parents of participating children:
 - a. Timely information about Title I programs;
 - b. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
 - c. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate (when appropriate) in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and
 - d. Submit any parent comments on the schoolwide programming plan when it is made available to PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY 'S Board of Directors.

- D. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY will jointly develop with parents a school/parent compact that outlines how parents, 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 the state's standards. The compact will:
 1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in an supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating children to meet the state's academic standards.
 2. Describe the parent's responsibility for supporting their child's learning by:
 - a. monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching;
 - b. volunteering in their child's classroom; and
 - c. participating in decisions relating to the education and use of extracurricular time of their child.
 3. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through:
 - a. an annual parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools during which the compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement;
 - b. frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and
 - c. reasonable access to:
 - i. staff;
 - ii. opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and
 - iii. observation of classroom activities.

- E. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY , parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement standards, PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY 's parental involvement policy will:
1. Provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding the state's academic content standards, state student academic achievement standards, academic assessments, federal Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their child;
 2. Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement including literacy training and using technology to foster parental involvement as appropriate;
 3. Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff (with the assistance of parents) about the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
 4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs to a feasible and appropriate extent including conducting other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;
 5. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable format and language to the extent practicable; and
 6. Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.
- F. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY may also include any or all of the following components in its' parental involvement policy:
1. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, or other educators to improve the effectiveness of the training;
 2. Provide necessary literacy training;

3. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities including transportation and child care costs to enable parent to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
 4. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
 5. Arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between teachers and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school to maximize parental involvement;
 6. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
 7. Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement;
 8. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities.
- G. In carrying out the parental involvement requirements, PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY will provide a full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.
- H. PRAIRIE SEEDS ACADEMY will assist parents and parent organizations by informing them about parental information and resource centers.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parental Involvement)