



## **School Level Parental Involvement Policy 2016-2017**

### **Effective Communicators**

### **PART I: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

#### **2016-2017 School Parental Involvement Policy**

**Revised: (8/4/2016)**

**School: Lithonia High School District/LEA: DeKalb County School District**

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy, agreed on by such parents, that contains information required by section 1118 (b) (1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) (school parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

The school will adhere to the following as required by law:

- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).
- Update the school parent involvement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school and distribute it to the parents of participating children and make the parental involvement plan available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, 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 schoolwide program plan under section 1114 (b) (2) of the ESEA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and 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) that parents carry out other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. **Lithonia High School** will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parental involvement will be used.

*Lithonia High School will have a series of parent involvement meetings at a time convenient for parents.*

2. **Lithonia High School** will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend, to inform them about the school’s Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents’ requirements and the school parental involvement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

*Lithonia High School will hold the Title I Annual Meeting August 25, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.*

3. **Lithonia High School** will take the following actions to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

*Lithonia High School will offer a makeup meeting the morning of Friday, August 26, 2016 for parents unable to attend the initial meeting.*

4. **Lithonia High School** will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:
  - Timely information about the Title I programs;
  - Description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
  - Opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible;

*Lithonia High School will disseminate information via the website, email, calling post, Curriculum night, PTSA meetings, Parent meetings, and Parent Teacher Conference Night*

5. **Lithonia High School** will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children 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 the State's high standards.

*Lithonia High School will hold a parent development meeting to assist parents in understanding the specifics of shared responsibility.*

6. **Lithonia High School** will build the school's and parents' 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. **Lithonia High School** will provide assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –

- the State’s academic content standards;
- the State’s student academic achievement standards;
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
- the requirements of Part A;
- how to monitor their child’s progress, and
- how to work with educators

*Lithonia High School will hold grade-level and parent workshops on:*

- *Literacy and Math Skills*
- *Student Engagement and Parental Involvement*

B. **Lithonia High School** will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child’s achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by;

*Lithonia High School will offer Computer classes for Parents (Microsoft Training) and Create a Parent Resource Center*

C. **Lithonia High School** will provide training to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principal, 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 the school, by:

*Professional Learning opportunities will be offered during faculty meetings*

D. **Lithonia High School** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

*Lithonia High School will operate a Parent Center located in the Counseling Office and notify parents of opportunities via the website*

- E. **Lithonia High School** 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:

*Lithonia High School will use the DCSD resources to send literature to parents in a language that they understand, where feasible.*

- F. **Lithonia High School** will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request, by;

- Inviting parents to attend school activities*
- Asking parents to monitor student progress via the IC Parent Portal*
- Incorporating a convenient, easier way for parents to schedule parent conferences, i.e. online conference scheduler*

### **PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL LEVEL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

Indicate which of the following discretionary school level parental involvement policy components the school will implement to improve parental involvement.

- ✓ Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training; suggestion box, summary
- ✓ Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- ✓ Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- ✓ Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- ✓ In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school;

- ✓ Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement; research studies
- ✓ Establish a schoolwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- ✓ Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.

*Lithonia High School will:*

- *Provide a suggestion box for parents*
- *Provide Reading workshops for parents and students*
- *Pay for reasonable parent training workshops*
- *Provide a Parent Center*
- *Vary parent meeting times*
- *Review latest research on effectively improving parental involvement*
- *Work hand-in-hand with all stakeholders*