

Easton School District Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Easton School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The Easton 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/guardians 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 (Local Education Agency) 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/guardians with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians with disabilities, and parents/guardians 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/guardians understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating children, the school district will submit any parent/guardian comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents/guardians 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/guardians in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) Parents/Guardians play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) Parents/Guardians are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) Parents/Guardians 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) 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 Easton School District will take the following actions to involve parents/guardians in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

- Form a Parent Advisory Committee to include parents, teachers, and an administrator*
- Include all committee members in the decision making process*
- Ensure representation and approval from both the elementary and high school representatives*

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

- Meet with the Parent Advisory Committee to discuss programming school review*
- Hold an Open House to discuss Title I programming and implementation*
- Send letter home regarding NECAP testing schedules and AYP information*

3. The Easton 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:

- Information regarding Reading Eggs (K-2), Study Island (3-8), and APEX Learning (9-12)*
- IEP Meetings*
- Jupiter Grades (online parent access to grades)*
- District Newsletter*

— *Grades 7-12 student e-mail accounts*

4. The Easton School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under programs such as ECP (Early Childhood Program) by providing:

— *Volunteer opportunities*
— *ECP Punch and Cookies Night*
— *EPCO (Easton Parent Community Organization) membership*
— *Open House*

5. The Easton School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents/guardians, 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/guardians in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents/guardians 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.

— *Meet annually with the Parent Advisory Committee to discuss effectiveness of policy*
— *A parent survey regarding policy effectiveness and ideas for improvement*
— *Open House attendance/participation*

6. The Easton School District will build the schools' and parent's/guardian's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents/guardians and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents/guardians, 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/guardians 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 --

— **State academic content standards,**
— **State student academic achievement standards,**
— **State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,**
— **Requirements of Part A,**
— **How to monitor their child's progress, and**
— **How to work with educators:**

Activities to support involvement are as follows:

- *Parent/Teacher Conferences*
- *Quarterly progress reports*
- *EPCO opportunities for involvement*
- *Home/School newsletter (monthly)*
- *Open House presentations*
- *Letter home stating state testing dates/results (NECAP, MEA, Terra Nova)*

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents/guardians 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:

- *Reading Eggs training (K-2)*
- *Study Island Training (3-8)*
- *APEX Learning training (9-12)*
- *Home reading programs*

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents/guardians, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents/guardians, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents/guardians and schools, by:

- *In-service opportunities*
- *Parent/Teacher conferences*
- *Open House*
- *Faculty meetings*
- *CACE (Central Aroostook Council on Education) workshops*
- *District supported workshops*

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities, for programs such as ECP (Early Childhood Program), by offering:

- *EPCO opportunities*
- *Volunteer program (via invitation or parent request)*
- *ECP Punch and Cookies Night*
- *Open House*

E. 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/guardians of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand:

- ⌞ *Notices sent home to parents/guardians*
- ⌞ *Occasional mailings regarding upcoming activities*
- ⌞ *Fall/Spring District Newsletter*
- ⌞ *School Calendar*
- ⌞ *School Website*

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