

PARENTS – KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

TITLE I FAMILY INVOLVEMENT POLICY

TAYLOR COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

The purpose of the Family Involvement Policy is to support the mission of the Taylor County Middle School to educate all students effectively through the combined efforts of parents and school within the guidelines of Title I.

The purpose of Title I in the Taylor County School System is to enable this school to provide supplemental opportunities for children to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to meet the State of Kentucky's requirements.

Title I is a federal program that awards grant money to school districts for the sole purpose of improving teaching and learning techniques for children to enable them to meet challenging academic content and student performance standards.

The term *parent* used throughout this policy refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, step parents, guardians, etc.

DEVELOPING A HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

It is the goal of Taylor County Middle School to develop a strong partnership between home and school. Parents and school working together will cause an increase in student achievement and develop positive attitudes.

The key factor in the home-school partnership is the relationship between the teacher and the parent. Teachers are professionals who manage a variety of instructional resources. Parents are an essential resource in the learning process of children. The home-school partnership is effectively developed through:

- Communication between the home and school through parent/teacher conferences, progress reports to parents, reasonable access to staff, observation of classroom activities and opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class.
- Parent involvement, with appropriate training in instructional and support roles at this school and in other areas that help the school
- Providing assistance to parents in understanding national, state, and local goals, standards and assessments, Title I Part A requirements and how to monitor their child's performance
- Providing materials, training, strategies and techniques to parents to help them improve their child's academic achievement

- Educate all school staff on how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners
- Ensuring information sent home is in a language parents can understand. For parents whose English is a second language, provide information in their primary language. For parents who are visually impaired, provide information in Braille or in large print.
- Involving parents when appropriate, in the development of training for teachers and staff
- Providing resources, in connection with the Family Resource Center, designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child and where parents can learn about child development and rearing from birth
- Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses and encourage partnerships with elementary, middle and secondary schools
- Sharing responsibilities for successful student performance through the development of a Learning Compact between parents, students and school
- Training and supporting parents to encourage the involvement of other parents

The partnership between home and school will be supported by developing a process that continuously assesses plans and implements strategies that build the partnership through

- A district-wide committee of parents, teachers and administrators that will meet annually to plan, review and improve Title I programs in this school through the Comprehensive School Improvement Process
- A parent activities coordinator will assist schools with parent involvement efforts by providing technical assistance and other support necessary to assist in planning and implementing effective programs. The parent activities coordinator will work in collaboration with the Title I Supervisor
- Offering programs to parents and providing transportation, childcare and home visits, if needed
- Conducting an annual meeting in which all parents and faculty are invited. At this meeting parents will be informed of their child's participation in Title I, the purpose and requirements of Title I and their right to be involved
- Provide parents with
 - Information and opportunities to attend meetings and programs
 - School performance profiles and an interpretation of results
 - Their child's individual assessment results and an interpretation of results
 - A description and explanation of the school curriculum, assessment and proficiency levels

Comments and Suggestions

All comments and suggestion regarding this or any Title I program should be addressed through the Comprehensive School Improvement Process, which is available for annual review, through the Principal's office or on the world wide web at www.taylor.k12.ky.us