

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT No. 67

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN TITLE IA

PART ONE: GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The R.S.U. No. 67 Board of Directors endorses the parent involvement goals of the Title IA Program and encourages the regular participation by parents/guardians in all aspects of the school system's Title I programs.

For the purpose of this policy, "parents/guardians" include other family members involved in supervising the child's schooling.

Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including:

- Parents plan an important role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- Parents are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

In order to involve parents according to this definition, R.S.U. No. 67 will do the following:

- Form a Title IA Steering Committee with district administrators of Title IA schools, Title IA staff representatives and a parent representative.

The Title IA Steering committee will do the following:

- Inform parents and parent organizations of the purpose and existence of Maine Parent Information and Resource Center (Maine PIRC). The district will have printed materials from PIRC in each Title IA school Parent Resource Center.
- Review for feasibility and endorse a district-level parent involvement policy presented by the parent representative.
- Forward endorsed district policy to the Board Policy Committee for further action.
- Review for feasibility and endorse school-level parent involvement policies and parent-school compacts presented by the parent advisor/committee representative.
- Incorporate the district wide parent involvement policy into the LEA plan (Section 1112).
- Endorse and assist PAC as needed in holding proposed workshops/activities.
- Ensure that 95% of the 1% reserved for TIA parent involvement activities goes directly to the schools.

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT No. 67

- R.S.U. No. 67 will form a PAC with district staff and parents whose children are receiving RtI Tier II or Tier III supports.
The PAC and district staff will do the following:
 - Develop a district level parent involvement policy to be sent to the Title IA Steering Committee for final endorsement [Section 1118(a)(2)].
 - Work with all Title IA schools to develop the school-level parent involvement policies and parent-school compacts [Section 1118 (b) and 1118(d)] to be sent to the Title IA Steering Committee for final endorsement.
 - Assist in planning and holding programs and activities endorsed by the Title IA Steering Committee for parents of all district Title IA schools.
 - Distribute parent involvement policies and compact to all participating parents during Student Study Team (SST) meetings or parent conferences.
 - Contact parents by multiple means (phone, email, invitation, newsletter, newspaper, district website) to attend all Title IA parent involvement activities which will be offered in a variety of settings and times with childcare services whenever feasible.

- Make sure parents who have disabilities, speak English as a Second Language (ESL), and/or migrant workers are given reasonable support to participate in their children’s education. The district will provide this support through Title IA staff communication with parents in SST/IEP meetings, through phone calls, at individual conferences, and when appropriate in settings which eliminate any physical barriers (Section 1111).

- Include written parent comments about the Title IA program in the district report to the State Department of Education. The district will also include comments regarding the Title IA program from annual surveys and/or feedback forms.

PART TWO: ACTIVITIES

R.S.U. No. 67 will involve parents in the development and annual review of the district-wide parent involvement plan (section 1112). The district will

- Collaborate with Maine PIRC for technical assistance.
- Form a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) with Title IA staff, administrative representatives, and parents of students participating in Title IA programs.
 - The PAC will conduct a needs analysis at least annually to plan activities/topics for parent activity/training sessions.

R.S.U. No. 67 will involve parents in the process of school review and improvement (section 1116). The district will

- Ensure proper notification to parents regarding each school’s adequate yearly progress and review of proficiency notes.

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT No. 67

- Ensure proper notification to parents as to the Highly qualified status of their children's teacher(s).
- Include the opportunity for a Title IA parent to participate in the school review and improvement process.
- Include the opportunity for the Title IA coordinator to provide data collected from parents and students as part of the school review and improvement process.

R.S.U. No. 67 will provide assistance to Title IA schools in planning and conducting parent involvement activities to improve student achievement in school. The district will

- Collaborate with Maine Parent Information and Resource Center (Maine PIRC) to provide technical assistance to schools in planning and implementing parent involvement activities.
- Invite parents of all Title IA schools to participate as members of the PAC with the goal being the representation of all schools in planning sessions.

R.S.U. No. 67 will provide parents with information and training about standards, assessments, working with students at home, and working with teachers. The district will

- Share information with parents on state and local benchmarks annually at parent-teacher conferences, Open House, and/or Title IA meetings.
- Support Title IA activity nights, based on parent feedback, in which the focus is to help parents support their learners at home.
 - Access Maine's PIRC for their workshops on these topics
- The Director of Curriculum and Student Assessment will share information on student performance on New England Comprehensive Assessment Program (NECAP's) and other current district assessment data through an annual publication mailed to each resident's home.
- Provide parents with Title IA tri-annual reports of progress of students towards attaining standards through Title IA interventions and/or supports with routine report cards.
- Ensure proper notification to parents regarding accommodations their child may receive for local and state assessments.
- Provide parents with information through sign-out materials in a designated Parent Resource Center in each Title IA school.

R.S.U. No. 67 will 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, and in the values and utility of contributions of parents. The district will

- Provide staff with articles.
- Provide opportunities for facilitated discussions with parent and/or PIRC representatives
- Support the Student Study Team model for parent-teacher collaborative program planning for identified Title IA students.

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT No. 67

R.S.U. No. 67 will coordinate with community programs to the extent feasible and appropriate. The district will

- Inform families through mailings and public postings of available Adult Education courses, including those in which adults may earn diploma credits or work towards a GED.
- Support a Homeless Liaison position. This person posts contact materials throughout the district connecting families with necessary community resources for shelter, fuel, clothing, and food.
- Coordinate services for incoming students from Child Development Services (CDS) through the intake IEP process and contact with elementary principal.
- Extend invitations to parents and children of the Ella P. Burr Four-Year-Old Program and other preschool programs to participate in the annual Kindergarten Orientation program.

R.S.U. No. 67 will provide information and school reports in a way that is easy to understand. The district will

- Request parent representatives to review materials for appropriateness for parents' needs.
- Request parent feedback on such matters in the annual Title IA program review surveys.

PART THREE: ADOPTION OF POLICY

This District-Wide Parent Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed upon with, parents of children participating in Title IA programs. It has been reviewed and recommended to the Board Policy Committee for Board adoption by the Title IA Steering Committee. Once adopted, it will be distributed to all parents of participating Title IA children annually.

Attachments:

- Ella P. Burr School Title IA Parent Involvement Procedures
- Mattawancook Junior High Title IA Parent Involvement Procedures
- M.S.A.D. #67 Title IA Program Parent-School Compact

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318

Adopted: August 17, 2005

Revised: May 16, 2007; June 2, 2010