

Policy 2.51: Title I Parent Involvement Policy

Thornton Township High School District 205

The Thornton Township High School District 205 community recognizes the importance of parent involvement to reach individual student goals for student success and successful completion of high school requirements for graduation. In an effort to facilitate this involvement, a plan has been formulated and it is outlined in this report. Educational research clearly shows that parents who are actively involved in their child's learning at home help their children become more successful learners in and out of school. In our efforts to improve student achievement, Thornton Township High School District 205 has established objectives and will implement strategies to increase parent and community involvement within our school.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-1-16

Thornton Township High School District 205 encourages parents to visit the schools. The District Title I Coordinator will support the schools in ensuring that resources and funds are allocated to support parental involvement. Our parent involvement meetings are designed to provide parents with resources and materials they need to become more effective and actively involved in their children's education. We will continue to provide our parents and community with various forms of communication, including translations such as the parent/student handbook, newsletters, flyers and phone calls, etc.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-16

Two formal meetings will be conducted yearly at times intended to be convenient for parents to include parents in the planning process for the school program and revision of the school-parent compact. In addition, an initial meeting will inform parents of the school's Title I Plan, its requirements and their right to be involved in the program. Monthly newsletters will also be distributed to inform parents of their student's progress and plan for interventions when needed.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-1 and 2

Parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of programs for Title I in an organized, on-going and timely way. Parents will have the opportunity each year to review the District's Title I Parent Involvement Policy. The District will support the schools in addressing unsatisfactory aspects of the parental involvement program. A written notice will be given to all parents of the student identified as needing program services. Parents will also be invited to participate in School Improvement and Strategic Planning. A parent newsletter will be distributed twice a year highlighting the student's achievements and interpreting assessment results to monitor the progression of the school program. The school will also describe the curriculum and the assessments used by the school system to measure student progress in meeting the state's student achievement standards.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118- 4 and16

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Family literacy and math activities will be provided as appropriate to foster parental involvement and increased student achievement. Through regular meetings we will provide the opportunity to volunteer and participate in the decision making process by offering suggestions and receiving timely feedback to their suggestions.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-10-12 and 13

During Curriculum Night, parents will receive information regarding the focus of learning for the year. Parents will also receive brochures to enable them to become knowledgeable of the yearly benchmark targets. Parents are also invited to attend Standardized Testing informational workshops to keep them abreast of current state requirements of achievement. Workshops will be conducted to train parents in ways they can contribute to their child's progress. Ideas will be shared for monitoring attendance and television viewing, completing homework, and opportunities provided for volunteering in Thornton Township High School District 205. Efforts will be made to provide a supportive and effective learning environment by collaborating with pertinent departments, and facilitate the translation of pertinent information for parents where English is not their first language will be provided to the extent practicable. Parents and students with disabilities will also be accommodated with collaboration of the Special Education Department at the school and county levels. An annual survey will be sent to parents of Title I students; the data will be collected and submitted including all unsatisfactory comments regarding the school plan to the LEA.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-8-10, 13 and 15

To build ties between home and school, through parent advisories parents will assist in identifying professional development activities of teachers and school staff in the utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners. Thornton Township High School District 205 will implement and coordinate parent programs in order to build ties between home and school. In addition, formal compacts between parents, school, community, and student will be employed to specify everyone's contributing role in reaching the individual student's goals. Parent teacher conferences will be held periodically to relate individual student's achievement to parents. Parents will be informed of their student's academic progress every three weeks through progress reports, and a formal Report Card will be sent home every nine weeks. Parents may also observe classroom activities through the proper procedure in each school and will have the opportunity to suggest other activities that would provide additional parental support.

NCLB Act of 2001 Section 1118-16-7