

Fresno Unified Administrative Regulation (AR) 6020

Parent Involvement

To ensure that parents/guardians and family members of students participating in Title I programs are provided with opportunities to be involved in their children's education, the district shall:

1. Involve parents/guardians and family members in the joint development of a district plan that meets the requirements of 20 USC 6312 and in the development of school support and improvement plans pursuant to 20 USC 6311 (20 USC 6318)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. In accordance with Education Code 52063, establish a district-level parent advisory committee and, as applicable, an English learner parent advisory committee to review and comment on the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) in accordance with the review schedule established by the Governing Board
- b. Invite input on the plan from other district committees and school site councils
- c. Communicate with parents/guardians through the district newsletter, web site, or other methods regarding the plan and the opportunity to provide input
- d. Provide copies of working drafts of the plan to parents/guardians in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand
- e. Ensure that there is an opportunity at a public Board meeting for public comment on the plan prior to the Board's approval of the plan or revisions to the plan
- f. Ensure that school-level policies on parent/guardian and family engagement address the role of school site councils and other parents/guardians as appropriate in the development and review of school plans

2. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent/guardian and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents/guardians and family members in education (20 USC 6318).

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

The Superintendent or designee may

- a. Assign district personnel to serve as a liaison to the schools regarding Title I parent/guardian and family engagement issues
- b. Identify funding and other resources, including community resources and services, that may be used to strengthen district and school parent/guardian and family engagement programs
- c. Provide training for the principal or designee of each participating school regarding Title I requirements for parent/guardian and family engagement, leadership strategies, and communication skills to assist in facilitating the planning and implementation of related activities
- d. With the assistance of parents/guardians, provide information and training to teachers and other staff, regarding effective parent/guardian involvement practices and legal requirements

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

- e. Provide information to schools about the indicators and assessment tools that will be used to monitor progress
- 3. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate Title I parent/guardian and family engagement strategies with parent/guardian and family engagement strategies of other relevant federal, state, and local programs and ensure consistency with federal, state, and local laws (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Identify overlapping or similar program requirements
 - b. Involve district and school site representatives from other programs to assist in identifying specific population needs
 - c. Schedule joint meetings with representatives from related programs and share data and information across programs
 - d. Develop a cohesive plan focused on student needs and shared goals
4. Conduct, with meaningful involvement of parents/guardians and family members, as annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent/guardian and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served by Title I, including identification of: (20 USC 6318)
- a. Barriers to greater participation in parent/guardian and family engagement 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
 - b. The needs of parents/guardians and family members, so they can better assist with their children's learning and engage with school personnel and teachers
 - c. Strategies to support school and family interactions
5. Use the findings of the evaluation conducted pursuant to item #4 above to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parent/guardian and family involvement and, if necessary, to revise the parent/guardian and family engagement policy (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Analyze data from the evaluation to identify parent/guardian and family engagement activities that have been successful and those activities that have had lower participation or less meaningful involvement by parents/guardians
- b. Analyze parent/guardian and family participation to determine the level of participation by traditionally underrepresented groups
- c. With the involvement of parents/guardians, recommend and draft proposed policy revisions to submit to the Board for consideration
- 6. Involve parents/guardians in the activities of schools served by Title I, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents/guardians or family members served by the district to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the district for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent/guardian and family engagement policy (20 USC 6318)

The Superintendent or designee may:

- a. Include information about school activities in district communications to parents/guardians and family members

- b. To the extent practicable, assist schools with translation services or other accommodations needed to encourage participation of parents/guardians and family members
- c. Establish processes to encourage parent/guardian input regarding their expectations and concerns for their children

In addition, the district shall promote the effective involvement of parents/guardians and support a partnership among the school, parents/guardians, and the community to improve student achievement by implementing the actions specified in item #7 of the section "School-Level Policies for Title I Schools" below. (20 USC 6318)

School-Level Policies for Title I Schools

At each school receiving Title I funds, a written policy on parent/guardian and family engagement shall be developed jointly with the parents/guardians and family members of participating students. The school policy shall describe the means by which the school will: (20 USC 6318)

- 1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents/guardians of participating students shall be invited and encouraged to attend, in order to inform parents/guardians of their school's participation in Title I and to explain Title I requirements and the right of parents/guardians to be involved
- 2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, for which related transportation, child care, and/or home visits may be provided as such services relate to parent/guardian involvement
- 3. Involve parents/guardians in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school's parent/guardian and family engagement policy and, if applicable, the joint development of the plan for schoolwide programs pursuant to 20 USC 6314

The school may use an existing process for involving parents/guardians in the joint planning and design of the school's programs provided that the process includes adequate representation of parents/guardians of participating students.

- 4. Provide the parents/guardians of participating students all of the following:
 - a. Timely information about Title I programs
 - b. A description and explanation of the school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the state academic standards
 - c. If requested by parents/guardians, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education. The district shall respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- 5. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents/guardians of participating students, submit any parent/guardian comments when the school makes the plan available to the district
- 6. Jointly develop with the parents/guardians of participating students a school-parent compact that outlines how parents/guardians, the entire school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build a partnership to help students achieve state standards

This compact shall address:

- a. The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to achieve the state's challenging academic achievement standards
- b. Ways in which parents/guardians will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions related to their children's education and the positive use of extracurricular time
- c. The importance of communication between teachers and parents/guardians on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
 - i. Parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as it relates to the student's achievement
 - ii. Frequent reports to parents/guardians on their children's progress
 - iii. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom, and observation of classroom activities
 - iv. Regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand

7. Promote the effective involvement of parents/guardians and support a partnership among the school, parents/guardians, and the community to improve student achievement through the following actions:

- a. Assist parents/guardians in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic content standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

- b. Provide parents/guardians with materials and training, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement
- c. With the assistance of parents/guardians, educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals and other school leaders, and other staff, in the value and utility of parent/guardian contributions and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents/guardians as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent/guardian programs, and build ties between parents/guardians and the schools
- d. To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent/guardian involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents/guardians in fully participating in their children's education
- e. Ensure that information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents/guardians of participating students in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents/guardians can understand
- f. Provide other such reasonable support for parent/guardian involvement activities as parents/guardians may request

In addition, the school plan may include strategies to:

- a) Foster and encourage parent/teacher partnerships
- b) Communicate regarding student's progress
- c) Provide opportunities for parents/guardians to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's classroom/school

- d) Participate in district opportunities for parent training
- e) Support all elements of the Parent Involvement Policy (BP 6020) adopted by the FUSD School Board of education

8. To the extent practicable, provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents/guardians and family members (including parents/guardians and family members with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians and family members with disabilities, and parents/guardians and family members of migrant children), including providing information and school reports required under 20 USC 6311(h) in a format and language such parents/guardians can understand

If the school has a parent involvement policy that applies to all parents/guardians, it may amend that policy to meet the above requirements. (20 USC 6318)

Each school receiving Title I funds shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of its parent/guardian and family engagement policy. Such evaluation may be conducted during the process of reviewing the school plan for student achievement in accordance with Education Code 64001.

The school's policy shall be periodically updated to meet the changing needs of parents/guardians and the school. (20 USC 6318)

District Strategies for Non-Title I Schools

For each school that does not receive federal Title I funds, the Superintendent or designee shall, at a minimum:

1. Engage parents/guardians and family members positively in their children's education by providing assistance and training on topics such as state academic standards and assessments to increase their knowledge and skills to use at home to support their children's academic efforts at school and their children's development as responsible members of society (Education Code 11502, 11504)
2. Inform parents/guardians that they can directly affect the success of their children's learning, by providing them with techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home (Education Code 11502, 11504)
3. Inform parents/guardians that they can directly affect the success of their children's learning, by providing them with techniques and strategies that they may use to improve their children's academic success and to assist their children in learning at home (Education Code 11502, 11504)
4. Build consistent and effective two-way communication between the home and school so that parents/guardians and family members may know when and how to assist their children in support of classroom learning activities (Education Code 11502, 11504)
5. Train teachers, administrators, specialized instructional support personnel, and other staff to communicate effectively with parents/guardians as equal partners (Education Code 11502, 11504)
6. Integrate and coordinate parent/guardian and family engagement activities within the LCAP with other activities

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Legal Reference
 EDUCATION CODE
 11500-11505 Programs to encourage parent involvement
 48985 Notices to parents in language other than English

51101 Parents Rights Act of 2002
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
54444.1-54444.2 Parent advisory councils; services to migrant children
56190-56194 Community advisory committee; special education
64001 School plan for student achievement; consolidated application programs
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATION
18275 Child care and development programs; parent involvement and education
LABOR CODE
230.8 Time off to visit child's school
FEDERAL CODE
6311 State plan
6312 Local educational agency plan
6314 Schoolwide programs
6318 Parent and family engagement
6631 Teacher and school leader incentive program; purposes and definitions

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