

# Manatee County Public Schools

## Title I-Parent Involvement Plan

### General Expectations

The Manatee County Public School District agrees to have 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 of participating children. 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 in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring-(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;(C) that parents 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.*

### Parental Information Resource Center (PIRC) Contact Information:

Florida has two state Parental Information and Resource Centers (PIRCS):

1. The Florida Partnership for Family Involvement in Education (<http://www.partnershipcenter.usf.edu>)
2. The Florida PIRC at Family Network on Disabilities of Florida (<http://fndfl.org>).

You may log on to the PIRC websites for additional information.

### Description of How the Local Education Agency (LEA) Will Implement Required District-Wide Parent Involvement Plan Components

Manatee County Public Schools will involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA by reviewing input provided through the Parent Survey to determine areas of satisfaction and need. Meetings will be arranged by District staff for the purpose of developing the plan. Parents will be involved in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA through participation in School Advisory Council training. Parents will also be involved in the process by means of participation in scheduled school restructuring meetings. The district will provide 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 by doing the following:

- Distributing resource information to Title I schools
- Providing technical assistance with School Improvement Plan
- Using parent involvement compliance consultants to visit schools
- Providing parent 'Right to Know' letters for schools
- Providing Train the Trainer workshops for school parent involvement contacts

The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies under other programs such as Head Start, HIPPPY, and Church Leaders by providing and participating in the planning and implementation of events.

### Capacity Building

The following information is based upon the National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs developed by the National PTA.

### **Standard I: Communicating**

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents and children served by the school district or school take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Schools will disseminate the school's Parent Involvement Plan and school compacts
- *A Parent's Guide to Manatee County Public Schools (Bradenton.com/specialpublications)* will be inserted in the local paper and a link will be included in the district webpage
- Principals will sign the Attestation of Compliance document that assures all Title I requirements are being met
- School sites will be visited by consultants who will review information regarding parent involvement activities and provide technical assistance

### **Standard II: Parenting**

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

- Providing programs for parents through Adult and Community Education courses
- Updating, publishing and distributing hard copies of parent resource publications
- Allocating reading coaches to Title I schools to support literacy instruction and provide training/information for parents when appropriate

### **Standard III: Student Learning**

Manatee County Public Schools will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below: The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described below:

- the State's academic content standards
- the State's academic achievement standards
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

Effective involvement of parents will be ensured by the following actions:

- Informing schools of upcoming parent involvement conferences so information can be shared with parents
- Producing television programs to share educational and other important information with parents

### **Standard IV: Volunteering**

The school district will educate the entire school staff on how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners and how to coordinate parent programs between parents and schools by:

- Promoting Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC) workshops and events
- Providing school parent involvement contacts with training and all related materials for workshops such as *Effective Parent/Teacher Conferences*

### **Standard V: Decision Making and Advocacy (Part III Discretionary LEA Title I Parent Involvement Plan Component)**

The District will establish a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs. The District Family Involvement Team (D-FIT) will meet twice a year. Membership will include but not be limited to representatives from SAC, PTO, PTA, Programs of English Language Learners, Head Start, the Exceptional Student Education program, and the Migrant program.

### **Standard VI: Collaborating with Community**

The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, HIPPIY, and other programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in participating in the education of their children by:

- Including school and department program representatives from D-FIT
- Soliciting information from D-FIT members to share with schools

### **Summary Statement**

The Manatee County Public School District believes that successful schooling is a shared responsibility requiring commitment and collaboration among parents, faculty and staff. Positive parent involvement, convenient opportunities for staff/parent interaction, parent education, constructive home/school relationships, the earliest possible intervention and involvement of the family in supporting student learning are characteristics of effective programs. Each participating school will include a Parent Involvement Plan in its School Improvement Plan. Parent Involvement is very important and affects student achievement. Research shows that when a student's parent or guardian is involved, the student is more successful in school. You have just read the district's Title I Parent Involvement Plan for helping and supporting schools in their effort to encourage and promote parent involvement.