

FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Glocester, RI
TITLE I PART A PROGRAM – PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Foster Glocester Regional School District will put into operation 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.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Foster Glocester Regional School District is committed to fostering and promoting parental involvement as required in Title I, Part A, Section 1118. To accomplish this, our Title I school(s) will involve parents in the development of the District policy and the process of school review and improvement through the following types of involvement activities:

- Parental involvement group meetings
- Conducting parent surveys
- Consultation
- Frequently scheduled parent meetings
- Conferences
- School improvement meetings

GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

The Foster Glocester Regional School District is committed to implement and regularly evaluate a system that encourages and supports the involvement of parents of participating students, as partners and in all aspects of their child's education. In order to reach this goal, parent involvement must include:

- 1) Fostering effective parent involvement strategies and supporting partnerships among the school(s), parents, and the community to improve student achievement.
- 2) Providing coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the participating school(s) in planning and implementing effective parental involvement.
- 3) Building the school(s)'s capacity for strong parental involvement.
- 4) Conducting, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater parent participation.

STRATEGIES FOR ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTING INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

Foster effective parent involvement strategies and support partnerships among the school(s), parents, and the community to improve student achievement, including strategies such as:

- a) Develop and disseminate district parental involvement policy.
 - b) Conduct an annual meeting in the spring to update policy for next year's Title I, Part A program.
 - c) Coordinate parental involvement activities with those of other programs.
 - d) Establish parental involvement contact person at each of the Title I, Part A schools.
 - e) Conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.
 - f) Develop district parental involvement committee to create a parental involvement policy and implement parental involvement activities as well as disseminate information to the community to promote parental involvement in the Title I, Part A schools.
 - g) Ensure that parents of children with disabilities or limited English proficiency have the same access as other parents including information in a language and form they can understand.
- 1) Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the participating school(s) in planning and implementing effective parental involvement, including strategies such as:
- a) Conduct ongoing site visits to observe parental involvement practices.
 - b) Provide materials and training not otherwise available to assist parents in supporting their child's academic achievement.
 - c) Enhance the awareness and skills of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and staff in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents as equal partners.
 - d) Ensure, to the extent possible, that information is sent home in a language and form parents can understand.
 - e) Provide information on adult literacy training available in the community.
 - f) Provide a copy of the school policy at each school for parents to view as well as provide a copy to each parent.
 - g) Monitor each Title I, Part A school to ensure that each school performs the following tasks:
 - i. Develops a parental involvement policy.
 - ii. Offers flexible meeting times.
 - iii. Provides information to parents about the school's program, including parent information guides.
 - iv. Develops and uses a School-Parent Compact.
 - v. Provides training for parents in working with their child to improve academic achievement, to include training on student information system in order to have real-time access to their child's attendance and achievement.
 - h) Reinforce parenting skills to support the acquisition of academic skills and their application in real-life situations for parent use.
 - i) Encourage parents to visit/volunteer at school by assisting staff in developing volunteer opportunities as well as training staff to encourage and build volunteer efforts.

- j) Encourage parent participation through innovative scheduling of activities through strategies such as holding meetings at a variety of times, such as morning and evenings, in order to maximize the opportunities for parents to participate in school-related activities.
 - k) Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies and staff training with the overall professional development plan.
 - l) Convene annual school meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in the development of the parental involvement policy and their right to be involved.
- 2) Build the school(s)'s capacity for strong parental involvement, including strategies such as:
- a) Provide information to participating parents in such areas as national, state, and local education goals, including parents' rights as defined in Title I, Part A.
 - b) Assist in the development of parent engagement groups at each school.
 - c) Provide resources for parents to learn about child development, child rearing practices, and academic strategies that are designed to help parents become full partners in the education of their child.
 - d) Involve parents through an annual survey to improve school effectiveness.
 - e) Approve reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities.
 - f) Provide any reasonable support for parental involvement at the request of participating Title I, Part A parents.
- 3) Conduct, with the involvement of parents, ongoing evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy as it relates to strategies for increasing parental participation and identifying barriers to greater parent participation, including strategies such as:
- a) Survey parents annually, including questions to identify barriers to parental involvement.
 - b) Provide an opportunity for parents to assist in the development of the evaluation procedures, including analysis of data collected.
 - c) Develop procedures for collecting parent participation documentation through sign-in lists for workshops, meetings, and conferences; schedules; brochures; meeting notes; and other means as appropriate throughout the school year.
 - d) Use findings from evaluation process to –
 - i. Make recommendations to each participating school for parental involvement policy revisions.
 - ii. Provide suggestions for designing school improvement policies, as they relate to parental involvement.
 - e) Develop and disseminate an annual parent activity evaluation report to share with parents, staff, and the community.

As required by Title I, Part A programs, consistent with Section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), this district-wide parental involvement policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by meeting notes and sign-in sheets.

The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before August 9, 2013.

First Reading:	July 4, 2004
Second Reading/Adoption:	August 3, 2004
First Reading:	June 4, 2013
Second Reading/Adoption:	June 18, 2013