

Parent Involvement

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The County Superintendent or designee shall work with staff and parents/guardians to develop meaningful opportunities at all grade levels for parents/guardians to be involved in school activities; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

Strategies for Title I Schools

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

1. Involve parents/guardians of participating students in the joint development of the Title I local educational agency (LEA) plan pursuant to 20 USC 6312 and the process of school review and improvement pursuant to 20 USC 6316 by inviting input on the LEA plan from the school site council.
2. Provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by assigning person(s) in the SCOE to serve as a liaison to the schools regarding Title I parent involvement issues.
3. Build the capacity of schools and parents/guardians for strong parent involvement by:
 - a. assisting parents/guardians in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and academic achievement 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;
 - b. providing materials to help parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement;
 - c. educating teachers, student services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents/guardians, 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, coordinating and integrating parent involvement programs and activities with public preschool programs and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents/guardians in more fully participating in their children's education;
 - e. ensuring 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; and
 - f. providing other such reasonable support for parent involvement activities as parents/guardians may request.

Policy 6020 (Continued)

4. Conduct, with involvement of parents/guardians, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served by Title I by:
 - a. ensuring that the evaluation includes the identification of barriers to greater participation in parent involvement 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. using the evaluation results to design strategies for more effective parent involvement and, if necessary, to recommend changes in the parent involvement policy; and
 - c. assessing SCOE's progress in meeting annual objectives for the parent involvement program, notifying parents/guardians of this review and assessment through regular school communications mechanisms, and providing a copy to parents/guardians upon their request. (EC 11503)

SCOE's policy and administrative regulation containing parent involvement strategies shall be incorporated into the LEA plan and distributed to parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

11500-11506 Programs to encourage parent involvement
48985 Notices in languages other than English
51101 Parent rights and responsibilities
64001 Single plan for student achievement

LABOR CODE

230.8 Time off to visit child's school

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311 Parental notice of teacher qualifications and student achievement
6312 Local educational agency plan
6314 School-wide programs
6316 School improvement
6318 Parent involvement

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services
35.160 Communications

Policy Cross-Reference:

0420 School Plans/Site Councils
1220 Citizen Advisory Committees
1230 School-Connected Organizations
1240 Volunteer Assistance
1250 Visitors/Outsiders
5020 Parent Rights and Responsibilities
5145.6 Parental Notifications
6011 Academic Standards
6162.5 Student Assessment
6162.51 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program
6162.52 High School Exit Examination
6171 Title I Programs