

DADE COUNTY SCHOOLS
Title I Parent Involvement Policy

The goal of the Dade County School System is to help students reach their greatest potential. Recognizing that the most effective way to do that is through a partnership with the parents and community, the Dade County School System staff embraces and supports the following policy to assist in the development of active parent involvement. This policy was developed to follow and abide by regulations of Title I and No Child Left Behind. It also was written to address needs, concerns, and any special requests identified by an annual parent survey.

- I. This policy was developed with parents from Dade Elementary School and Davis Elementary School which are the two Title I schools in the Dade County System. This policy will be provided to parents in student handbooks and on the website.
- II. Parents will be notified of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status. If either school does not make AYP status during future years, that school would follow guidelines established by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law to notify parents. Each school will have at least one parent as a member of the leadership team for that school to help with school review and school improvement plans. This parent can be a substitute or an employee of another school, but is not to be an employee of the school where they will be a member of the leadership team.
- III. If possible money will be set aside each year for Parent Involvement.
- IV. Decisions about the use of those funds will be made after considering results of an annual parent survey and discussions with parents during the development of Parent Involvement Action Plans.
- V. The Dade County School System will provide a Parent Involvement Coordinator to support the elementary schools in their planning and implementation of parent involvement activities and programs. The Parent Involvement Coordinator will work with a parent advisory council and each principal to provide the specific assistance and support required to meet the needs of the parents in each school.
- VI. An annual meeting will be held with other programs in the county who provide services to preschool children. This meeting will be for the purpose of planning activities for families from all programs.
- VII. A parent survey will be conducted in the spring of each year to determine the effectiveness of the current activities and programs for parents. The survey will also identify barriers which would hinder participation, especially to those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or of any race or ethnic minority.
- VIII. Using suggestions and considering reasonable requests from the parent surveys, an action plan for parental involvement will be developed for the following school year. If necessary, revisions will also be made to the School Parent Involvement Policies.
- IX. Information will be provided to parents at least annually to help them understand topics required by Title I.
- X. Dade County School staff recognize that parents are the first and best teachers their children have. Therefore, materials and training will be provided to parents to help their children achieve. Monthly workshops will address strategies used in the classroom and effective ways parents can work with their children at home will be provided. Different methods of technology will be used to provide this training and parents will have access to media center computers and computer labs during nonscheduled class times. They also will be provided information regarding website links that will provide them with helpful and/or requested information.
- XI. Annual training will be provided to teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, and support staff regarding the importance of the contribution of parents in the education of their children and how they can reach out to and communicate and build a partnership with parents.

- XII. Dade County Schools recognize the importance of community organizations and businesses in the promotion and advancement of education for the children of the county. There are many opportunities for involvement of these entities, and information will be provided to those entities. There are many businesses in the Dade County area that provide support and donations for different school activities. The Parent Involvement Coordinator will be an active member of the DADE FIRST Family Connection to collaborate with other local agencies and parents from each of the Title I schools will also be encouraged to participate in Family Connection activities and meetings.
- XIII. The School Councils from each Title I school will also act as advisory councils for each school. Parents from each council will also work together to act as an advisory council district-wide.
- XIV. A Parent Resource Center will be provided at each Title I school to provide materials and information through workshops, etc. and parenting issues which will assist parents in becoming full partners in their children's education.
- XV. Any reasonable unsatisfactory parent comments regarding the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Parent Involvement Plan will be addressed through revisions to the plan. These comments will be submitted with the LEA Plan to the State Educational Agency (SEA)
- XVI. Parents of all children in the Title I schools will be provided opportunities and notification of those opportunities to be involved in the education of their children. Notifications will be provided to families in their own language and when needed. Arrangements will be made so that translators will be available at parental involvement activities.