

KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OFFICE
Title I School-Level Parental Involvement Policy
Community School

The Community School program operated by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office (KCSOS) has developed a written Title I parental involvement policy with input from Title I parents/guardians. Community School recognizes the importance of parental involvement and works closely with parents/guardians to support them and their child through the educational process. It has distributed the policy to parents/guardians of Title I students by sending home a copy with every student and parent/guardian at the time of enrollment. Community School's policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parental involvement requirements and outlines how we involve parents/guardians. [20 USC 6318 Section 118(a)-(f) inclusive].

Involvement of Parents/Guardians in the Title I Program

To involve parents/guardians in the Title I program at Community School, the following practices have been established:

Convenes an annual meeting to inform parents/guardians of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents/guardians to be involved in the Title I Program.

- Community School holds an annual Back-to-School Night at each of its sites and Town Hall meetings in the spring to inform parents/guardians of the school's participation in the Title I program, program requirements and their right to be involved.
- Parents/guardians are required to attend orientation upon enrollment in Community School at which time the School-Level Parental Involvement Policy, School Compact, and other policies are reviewed.

Offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents/guardians

- Meetings are scheduled in the mornings, afternoons, or evenings to better accommodate parents/guardians.

Involves parents/guardians of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs and the Title I Parental Involvement Policy.

- Through School Site Council (SSC) and the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), Community School involves parents/guardians in the planning, review and improvement of our specially funded programs, plans, and budgets.

Provides parents/guardians of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs

- Parents/guardians are provided Title I information during orientation, Back-to-School Night, SSC meetings, ELAC/DELAC meetings, parent conferences, reclassification meetings, IEP meetings, Student/Parent Handbook, letters mailed home, and through the Alternative Education website.

Provides parents/guardians of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum, assessments, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

- Parents/guardians are provided with an explanation of the curriculum, assessments, and proficiency levels during orientation, Back-to-School Night, SSC meetings, ELAC/DELAC meetings,

parent conferences, reclassification meetings, IEP meetings, and through the Alternative Education website.

- Parents/guardians are provided written notification in regard to the state mandated testing and the results thereof.
- Parents/guardians are provided with regular reports on their student's academic progress.

Provides parents/guardians of Title I students, if requested, with opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children

- Community School will continue to provide accessibility to our working parents/guardians. At parent/guardian request, Community School will take the necessary steps to accommodate all of our working parents/guardians.

School-Parent Compact

Community School distributes to parents/guardians of Title I students a School-Parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents/guardians, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It also describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents/guardians of Title I students:

- The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- The parents'/guardians' responsibility to support their children's learning through the importance of ongoing communication between parents/guardians and teachers through parent/guardian-teacher conferences, reports on student progress, access to staff, and opportunities to volunteer and participate in and observe the educational program.

The School Compact was developed with input from Title I parents/guardians and staff through SSC, ELAC, and the Leadership Team. The School Compact is distributed every year (included in Student/Parent Handbook) after review and approval by the SSC.

Building Capacity for Involvement

Community School engages Title I parents/guardians in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents/guardians, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help meet the goals, the school has established the following practices:

Provides Title I parents/guardians assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.

- Parents/guardians are provided information on the academic content standards, assessments results, and monitoring information at Back-to-School Night, parent conferences, SCC meetings, ELAC and DELAC meetings, IEP meetings, and letters mailed home.

Provides materials and training to help Title I parents/guardians work with their children to improve their children's achievement

- Parents/guardians are provided opportunities and materials to improve their children's achievement which include but are not limited to parent teacher conferences, Back-to-School Night, Town Hall meetings, and referrals to outside agencies (e.g. mental health agencies).

Educates staff, with the assistance of Title I parents/guardians, about the value of parent/guardian contributions and how to work with parents/guardians as equal partners.

- Staff is provided in-services on working with students and families in poverty, increasing parent/guardian-school partnerships through on-going effective communication.

Coordinates and integrates the Title I parental involvement program with other programs and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support parents/guardians in more fully participating in the education of their children.

- Community School coordinates the Title I parental involvement program with other programs including but not limited to JobsPlus!, Kern YouthBuild, School/Community Partnerships, Kern County Probation Department, mental health agencies, and referring districts.

Distributes information related to school and parent/guardian programs, meetings, and other activities to the Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand.

- Community School distributes all parent/guardian communication in English and Spanish. Parent/guardian communication includes but is not limited to: progress reports, newsletters, and school notices. In addition, school staff members are made available to interpret for Spanish-speaking parents/guardians who attend meetings and other school activities.

Provides support for parental involvement activities requested by Title I parents/guardians

- Support for all parents/guardians is provided by the entire staff of Community School on a daily basis, so that the individual needs of each student is met to the best of our ability
- Parents/guardians are provided opportunities to complete surveys online, at Back-to-School Night and/or at Town Hall meetings. Feedback gathered from the surveys is used to help plan program improvements.

Accessibility

Community school provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents/guardians, including parents/guardians with limited English proficiency, parents/guardians with disabilities, and parents/guardians of migrant students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents/guardians understand.

- Community School distributes all parent/guardian communication in English and Spanish. Parent/guardian communication includes but is not limited to: progress reports, newsletters, and school notices. All meetings are held in locations that are accessible to all including those with disabilities and school staff members are made available to interpret for Spanish-speaking parents/guardians.