

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

The Evangeline Parish School Board recognizes that parental involvement must be a priority of the District for children to learn and achieve academic success. Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners with the Board throughout their children's elementary and secondary school careers. The term *parent* shall refer to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, and includes parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, stepparents, and others. The concept of *parental involvement* shall include programs, services, and/or activities on the school site, as well as contributions of parents outside the normal school setting.

It shall be the policy of the School Board and each public school in Evangeline Parish, in collaboration with parents, teachers, students, administrators, and other educational resources, to establish, develop, and maintain strategies and programs that are intended to enhance the involvement of parents and other caregivers that reflect the needs of students, parents, and families served by the Board, in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. As part of the parental involvement program, it shall be the responsibility of every school to create a welcoming environment, conducive to learning and supportive for comprehensive family involvement programs that have been developed jointly with parents/families.

### DISTRICT LEVEL RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the policy of the Evangeline Parish School Board to:

1. Hold an annual fall district parent meeting to provide parents and the community with the opportunity to:
  - A. evaluate the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy with particular attention to addressing barriers to greater participation by parents with disabilities and/or English proficiency and/or literacy or who are members of a racial or ethnic minority.
  - B. be informed about schoolwide plans and budgets and federal guidelines governing the review of schoolwide plans for their children's individual schools and make comments.
2. Meet with parents at a district meeting in the spring to review the *Evangeline Parish Consolidated Application* and be given the opportunity to submit comments with the plan when the application is submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education in May of each year.
3. Provide to parents with limited English proficiency interpreters at school or parish meeting, if so requested.

## SCHOOL LEVEL RESPONSIBILITIES

Each school shall:

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time to which all parents shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's educational programs and to explain components of the parental involvement program, its requirements, and the parent's right to be involved.
2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide funds for transportation.
3. Provide a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
4. Provide the results of individual student assessment and interpretation of results.
5. Include on its schoolwide planning committee, annual representation by parents when the plan is being evaluated and/or revised.
6. Participate in *School Parent Compacts* which outline how parents, the school and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.

## TITLE-I PARENT INVOLVEMENT SUPERVISOR

The Title I Parent Involvement Supervisor shall:

1. Be available to help schools write parent involvement components of the schoolwide plans upon request.
2. Plan with schools who have access to computer labs and wish to offer computer literacy to parents.
3. Work collaboratively with Head Start in preplanning for registration and participation in the 4 year old Early Childhood Program to help ensure that services are offered to the maximum number of eligible children.
4. Provide parents opportunities for local and district level training to help them work with their children toward higher academic achievement.
5. Provide parents opportunities for participation in regional or state meetings which offer professional parent involvement consultants.

6. Disseminate monthly professional parent involvement newsletters for parents of students in grades Pre-K – 8.

### Statement of Compliance

Each student in grades 4-12 and each parent or guardian of a student in grades 4-12, shall annually sign a *Statement of Compliance*, in accordance with state law. For students, the *Statement of Compliance* shall state that the student agrees to attend school regularly, arrive at school on time, demonstrate significant effort toward completion of homework assignments, and follow school and classroom rules. For parents, the *Statement of Compliance* shall state that the parent or legal guardian agrees to ensure his/her child's daily attendance at school, ensure his/her child's arrival at school on time each day, ensure his/her child completes all assigned homework, and attend all required parent/teacher/principal conferences.

### OTHER PROGRAMS

In conjunction with the district services rendered under the Board's parental involvement program, the School Board shall maintain contact and communication with social service and health agencies, faith-based institutions, and community groups to support key family and community services and issues. In particular, the Evangeline Parish School Board has a strong relationship with and support from community and/or governmental organizations such as Families in Need of Services (FINS), Partners in Education, and District Parent/Teacher Association (PTA). One of the primary goals of these groups is to support, supplement, and assist in improving involvement of parents of children in Evangeline Parish public schools.

Ref: 20 USC 6312 (*Part A-Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies*); 20 USC 6318 (*Parental Involvement*); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:235.2; Board minutes, 3-21-01.