

The Bellmawr School District-School Parental Involvement Policy

Title I District-School Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

The Bellmawr School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- The school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its district plan.
- In carrying out the Title I, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the district plan for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools. (Only applicable for districts with Title I allocations greater than \$500,000.)
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;

(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;

(C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;

(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

- The school district will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

PART II. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The **Bellmawr School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school parental involvement plan.

*Provide information at in each of the three schools back to school nights
Hold a parent information sessions for the district during the school year.*

2. The **Bellmawr School District** will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

*Two annual meetings will be held: 9-12-18 at each of the elementary schools;
9-13-16 at the middle school, and on 9-20-16 there will be a District wide meeting to discuss all Title One services during the school year.*

3. The **Bellmawr School District** will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

*Meetings are held at varying times of the day; childcare and refreshments are provided;
home visits are conducted.*

Those meetings will be advertised on our district and school web pages, the facebook page and through our instant messaging system.

4. The **Bellmawr School District** will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- widespread dissemination of policies
- interpreters
- info sessions
- technology workshops
- academic support to families

5. The **Bellmawr School District** will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The school/district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- The state's academic content standards,
- The state's student academic achievement standards,
- The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- The requirements of Title I,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators

The **Bellmawr School District** will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.

B. The **Bellmawr School District** will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- holding ELA workshops
- holding math workshops
- holding technology sessions –
 - how to use social media,
 - information about the 1:1 laptop initiative
 - Using technology at home and in school

C. The **Bellmawr School District** will, with the assistance of its Title I schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners. In the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- issuing press releases
- holding workshops
- issuing interest surveys
- issuing perception surveys
- holding advisory meetings

D. The **Bellmawr School District** will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:

- regional registration
- orientation
- class visitation, home visits, handbook

E. The **Bellmawr School District** will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;

- Distribute policies handbook
- Use social media to inform parents of school/district events and important information
- Issue a school district calendar
- Issue a newcomers packet

6. The **Bellmawr School District** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following programs by:

- Offering full inclusion K-6
- Family Literacy nights
- offering ELL classes
- offering ELL support
- offering full day Preschool and Kindergarten

7. The **Bellmawr School District** will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited

English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

*The school and district will issue surveys upon the conclusion of all parent programs
The school and district will issue perception surveys and interest surveys to determine need*

8. The **Bellmawr School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

- Hold quarterly feedback sessions
- Invite parents to Monthly Board meetings where program information is highlighted

9. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local education agency.

PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

PART IV. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The District/School Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

- involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school.
- adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities;
- provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

PART V. ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Engage interpreters as needed

Meet with all parents through our family support center and parent support groups

PART VI. ADOPTION

This District/School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes.

This policy was adopted by the Bellmawr School District on 09/26/18 and will be in effect for the period of 2018-2019 year. This will be posted on the website after the board meeting.

Signature of Title I Authorized Representative

(Date)