

Joyce Kilmer Elementary School Title 1 Parent Involvement Policy 2011-2012

Joyce Kilmer Elementary believes that positive parental involvement is essential to student achievement, and thus encourages such involvement in school educational planning and operations. The school will develop programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents along the guidelines of Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Policy

Consistent with the parent involvement goals of Title I, Part A of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), Joyce Kilmer Elementary will:

- develop and implement programs, activities and procedures that encourage and support the participation of parents of students eligible for Title I services in all aspects of their child's education.
- develop and implement school parental involvement policies.

The ultimate goal of these programs, activities and procedures is to ensure that all families within the school are provided opportunities for involvement in their child's education.

The term parents refer to a natural parent, legal guardian and grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives.

Parent Involvement

Parental involvement may take place either in the classroom or during extracurricular activities. However, parental involvement should be encouraged at home (e.g., planned home reading time, informal learning activities, and/or homework contracts between parents and children). The School will develop programs and activities that will encourage all forms of parental involvement.

Types of involvement are:

- **Parenting:** Help all families establish home environments to support children as students.
- **Communicating:** Design effective forms of school-to-home and home-to-school communications about school programs and children's progress.
- **Volunteering:** Recruit and organize parent help and support.
- **Learning at Home:** Provide information and ideas to families about how to help students at home with homework and other curriculum-related activities, decisions and planning.

- **Decision-Making:** Include parents in school decisions, develop parent leaders and representatives.
- **Collaborating with Community:** Identify and integrate resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices and student learning and development.

Joyce Kilmer School abides by the Title 1 regulation for parent involvement which includes the following:

Annual meetings are held to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title 1 program.

- Title 1 parent night agenda (fall and spring)
- School Compact
- Parent/teacher conferences
- Website and newsletter

Parents are involved in the planning, review and improvement of the school's Parent Involvement Policy through:

- Back to School Night
- General Parent Meetings PTSA– Every 1st Monday of the Month
- Parent Information Meetings – Every 3rd Monday of the Month
- Title 1 parent nights – Literacy, Math, and Parent Involvement
- Muffins with Mom and Doughnuts with Dad
- Parent survey- September & April
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Representation at District Steering Committee meeting (monthly)

Title 1 funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expense associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation and childcare to enable parents to participate in school related meetings and training sessions.

- As per need

Parents are involved in the joint development of the School Improvement Plan.

- Opportunities to participate monthly and offer ideas, suggestions and revisions.

Communication to Parents

The School will develop and provide parent-friendly materials using all or any part of this policy to communicate the policy to all parents and members of the community and to promote and maintain parent involvement.

The goal of these and all communications to parents is to ensure that information related to school and parent-related programs, meetings and other activities are sent to the parents of students, in a clear format.

The Joyce Kilmer Parental Involvement Policy will be made available to all families in written form and be printed and distributed to families within the school and on the School's website.

The school will utilize multiple resources for maximizing two way communications with parents.

- Power School
- School Messenger
- Day/Evening parent meetings
- Morning coffees with the principal
- Parent representation on planning committees
- Parent Liaison
- Website announcements and teacher contact information
- Quarterly newsletter
- District/School website
- E -mail updates as requested

The school provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their child's achievement.

- Quarterly newsletter
- Title 1 parent presentations and materials
- Parent resource center
- Parent/teacher conferences
- Parent/Student/School Compact
- Literacy/Math Workshops
- Parent Information Nights – Financial, Building Positive Relationships and Bullying workshops
- Community Resources

Parents are provided an individual student report of the performance of their child on the state assessment in at least Math and Reading.

- Mailed to the home of the student

The Parent Involvement Policy is posted on the Joyce Kilmer's website and distributed to parents.

