

ND Department of Public Instruction

Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent

600 E Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201

Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

(701) 328-4570

North Dakota State Title I Office

Title I Schoolwide

Parental Involvement Requirements

and Ideas



Updated December 2007

Table of Contents

Overview of Parental Involvement Requirements	1
Parental Involvement Policy	2
■ Required Components of a Schoolwide Parental Involvement Policy	3
■ Title I District Parental Involvement Policy Requirements.....	4
■ Title I District Parental Involvement Policy – TEMPLATE	5-8
■ Title I School Parental Involvement Policy Requirements	9-10
■ Title I School Parental Involvement Policy – TEMPLATE	11-13
■ Title I District-School Parental Involvement Policy – TEMPLATE.....	14-18
School-Parent Compact	19
■ School-Parent Compact – TEMPLATE	20-21
Schoolwide Annual Parent Meeting	22
■ Required Components of the Annual Parent Meeting	23
■ Sample – Agenda for Annual Schoolwide Parent Meeting	24
Opportunities for Training Parents	25
■ Opportunities for Training Parents	26
■ Ideas for Meeting the Requirement to Partner with Parents	27
Assessment of Parental Involvement.....	28
■ Sample – Parent Survey	29
Schoolwide Annual Review Meeting	30
■ Sample – Notice to Inform Parents of Annual Review Meeting Results	31
Six Types of Parental Involvement.....	32
■ Overview or Six Types of Parental Involvement	33
Additional Information on Parental Involvement.....	34
■ Resources for Parental Involvement.....	35
■ Ideas for Making Parents Feel Welcome	36
■ More Ideas for Parental Involvement	37-38

Overview of Parental Involvement Requirements

These requirements apply to BOTH targeted assistance schools AND schoolwide programs.

- **Parental Involvement Policy**—This policy should be updated yearly, distributed to parents in some manner, and describe the ongoing activities that are held by the school to inform and involve parents in their child’s education. In large districts, the district and each of its Title I schools must have a unique parental involvement policy. In smaller districts, the district and its Title I schools may develop a joint policy; however, district level and school level requirements must be adequately addressed. All policies must meet US Department of Education (USDE) regulations.
- **School-Parent Compact**—This is an agreement between the home and the school that outlines each party’s responsibility for supporting student learning. Each Title I school should have a compact outlining its unique needs. This compact must meet the USDE regulations.
- **Annual Parent Meeting**—Each year, schoolwide Title I schools are required to host a meeting for parents to explain the Title I program. (This is different from the Schoolwide Annual Review meeting, which is also required). This meeting should give parents the opportunity to actively participate and have input into the schoolwide program, as well as provide an overview of the schoolwide plan. Preferably, this meeting occurs at the beginning of each school year. You must be able to document this meeting with minutes, agendas, sign-in lists, etc.
- **Assessing the Parental Involvement Component**—At the end of each school year, you must assess your parental involvement component. How you conduct the assessment of the parental involvement component is a local decision. Most often, it is a survey sent out to parents. The idea is to give parents a chance to voice their feelings by asking them, “Did you have the opportunity to be involved in the schoolwide plan?” and “What are your suggestions or recommendations for improving the schoolwide program?”
- **Providing Opportunities for Training Parents**—Schoolwide Title I programs must provide parents with opportunities to become partners with the school in promoting the education of the child at school and at home. These opportunities should be aligned to schoolwide goals and should include information regarding specific methods parents can use at home to complement their child’s education toward reaching schoolwide goals. This requirement could be evidenced by parent training sessions or workshops, copies of handouts and/or newsletters distributed to parents, and examples of information exchanged at parent-teacher conferences.
- **Annual Review Meeting**—This is a yearly review of the entire schoolwide program. This is where you would gather data about your schoolwide program, its implementation, student achievement data, perception data (including the parent assessment), and demographic data. This data should help you measure the success of your schoolwide plan in terms of how well it is being implemented AND its impact on student achievement. This information should be used to revise the schoolwide plan each year. The schoolwide Annual Review Meeting is included under the parental involvement section since parents must be informed of and involved in the schoolwide Annual Review Meeting.
- **Six Types of Parental Involvement**—During the 2008-2009 school year, schoolwide Title I programs will be required to show evidence that they are reaching out to parents in multiple ways. Dr. Joyce Epstein of John Hopkins University has developed a framework for defining six different types of parental involvement. This framework helps educators in developing relationships and partnerships between schools and families. The six types of parental involvement include: Parenting, Communicating, Volunteering, Learning at Home, Decision Making, and Collaborating with Community.

Parental Involvement Policy

REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF A SCHOOLWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Schools and districts are to use templates, provided by the U.S. Department of Education, to fulfill this requirement. These templates are available at www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/require/parent/index.shtm.

The following **MUST** be included in a schoolwide Parental Involvement Policy:

- **Annual Parent Meeting**—Convene an annual meeting to which all parents must be invited. The purpose of this meeting is to inform parents about the school's schoolwide program and initiatives and how their child is assessed, to discuss with parents the projects and activities carried out with Title I funds, to inform parents of their right to consult in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the schoolwide plan and schoolwide projects, to solicit parents' input, and to provide parents an opportunity to establish ways for maintaining ongoing communication.
- **Communicate with Parents**—Meet with parents periodically (i.e., during the regular parent-teacher conferences scheduled by the school). At this time, all classroom teachers should be prepared to discuss individual student goals, the student's progress, and methods the parents can use to complement the child's instruction.
- **Assessment of Parental Involvement**—Assess the parental involvement component of the schoolwide program annually. Survey parents to gather input. Provide timely responses to the recommendations made by the parents.
- **Parental Involvement Policy**—Annually review the parental involvement policy. Provide all parents with a copy of the policy.
- **Schoolwide School-Parent Compact**—Review the schoolwide School-Parent Compact. Collect parent input on the compact. Provide all families with a copy of the compact.
- **Student Assessment**—Assess all students regularly to determine whether they are making adequate progress. Discuss with parents the school's curriculum, forms of assessments used, and the expected proficiency levels for these assessments.
- **Opportunities for Training Parents**—Provide materials and suggestions to all parents to help them promote the education of their children at home. Encourage parents to promote recreational reading as a leisure activity for their children. Articles written in the school newsletter concerning reading and/or math issues, which will help parents become partners with the school in promoting the education of their child at school and home, could also be used to meet this requirement.
- **Schoolwide Annual Review Meeting**—An annual review of the schoolwide program is conducted at the end of the school year to assess the entire schoolwide program and address changes for the subsequent school year. Parents must be informed of and involved in the schoolwide Annual Review Meeting.

Title I District Parental Involvement Policy Requirements

A Title I District Parental Involvement Policy must include the following components:

Part I – District Expectations

A school district's written parental involvement policy must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement.

Part II – District Parental Involvement Policy Required Components

The district parental involvement policy must describe how the district will incorporate the following six components.

1. Involve parents in jointly developing the district parental involvement policy;
2. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
3. Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement;
4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under other programs, such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents as Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), state-run preschool programs, and Title III language instructional programs;
5. Conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served with Title I funds, including—
 - 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;
 - Using the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement; and
 - Revising, if necessary, the district's parental involvement policies.
6. Involve parents in the activities of schools served under the Title I program.

Part III – Discretionary District Parental Involvement Policy Components

The school district parental involvement policy can also include other discretionary components as identified by individual districts.

Part IV – Adoption of District Policy

The district parental involvement policy must be adopted by the district and provided to all parents of students served in a program supported with Title I funds.

Title I District Parental Involvement Policy

TEMPLATE

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Each school district must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. [Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]

The name of 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 Department of Public Instruction.
- 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 North Dakota (i.e., NDPASS in Minot, ND).

PART II. DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The **name of school district** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district parental involvement plan:

(List actions.)

2. The **name of 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:

(List activities.)

3. The **name of 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

(List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-state and out-of-state, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

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

(List activities.)

- C. The 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:

(List activities.)

- D. The 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, 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:

(List activities.)

- E. The 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:

(List actions.)

4. The **name of school district** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: [Insert programs, such as: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:

(List activities.)

5. The **name of 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.

(List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents will play)

6. The **name of school district** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

(List activities.)

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The District 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 childrens’ 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 that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- 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 those conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.
- Establish a district 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, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District 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 name of school district on mm/dd/yy and will be in effect for the period of school year . The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before date .

(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)

(Date)

*This template of a District Parental Involvement Policy is a modified version of the sample provided in the U.S. Department of Education Parental Involvement Guidance.

Title I School Parental Involvement Policy Requirements

Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental involvement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements of (c) through (f) as listed below and outlined in Title I law:

C. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

Each school served under this part shall –

1. 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;
2. 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;
3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental improvement policy;
4. Provide parents of participating children –
 - i. timely information about programs under this part;
 - ii. a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - iii. if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.
5. 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 educational agency.

D. 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.

E. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part–

1. Shall, provide assistance to the parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
2. Shall, 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;

3. Shall, educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
4. Shall, 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;
5. May ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand;
6. May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
7. May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
8. May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
9. May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
10. May 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, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
11. May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
12. May establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section;
13. May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities; and
14. Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this part, as parents may request.

F. 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 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Title I School Parental Involvement Policy

TEMPLATE

Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental involvement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements of (c) through (f) as listed below and outlined in Title I law:

A. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

Each school served under this part shall –

1. 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;

(Describe when and where the annual meeting will be held.)

2. 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;

(Describe how flexibility is provided.)

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy;

(List actions.)

4. Provide parents of participating children –
 - i. timely information about programs under this part;
 - ii. a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - iii. if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.

(List actions.)

5. 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 educational agency.

(List actions.)

B. 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.

(List actions.)

C. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part –

- a. Shall provide assistance to the parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;

(List actions.)

- b. Shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their childrens' achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;

(List actions.)

- c. Shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;

(List actions.)

- d. Shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent 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;

(List actions.)

- e. Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand;

(List actions.)

- f. May involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- g. May provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training;
- h. May pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- i. May train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- j. May 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, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- k. May adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- l. May establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under this section;
- m. May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities; and
- n. Shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this as parents may request.

(For number f – n, list any activities and/or actions your school will be implementing.)

D. 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 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

(List actions.)

Title I District - School Parental Involvement Policy TEMPLATE

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Each school district must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. *[Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]*

The name of 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 Department of Public Instruction.
- 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 North Dakota (i.e., NDPASS in Minot, ND).

PART II. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

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

(List actions.)

2. The **name of 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,

(Describe when and where the annual meeting will be held.)

3. The **name of 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;

(Describe how flexibility is provided.)

4. The **name of 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:

(List activities.)

5. The **name of 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

(List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-state and out-of-state, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

The name of 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 the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible.

- B. The school/district will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their childrens’ academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

(List activities.)

- C. The 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:

(List activities.)

- D. The 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, 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:

(List activities.)

- E. The 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:

(List actions.)

6. The name of school/district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: [Insert programs, such as: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents As Teachers, Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and state-operated preschool programs], by:

(List activities.)

7. The **name of 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.

(List actions, such as describing how the evaluation will be conducted, identifying who will be responsible for conducting it, and explaining what role parents will play)

8. The **name of school/district** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

(List activities.)

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 educational agency.

(List actions.)

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.

(List actions.)

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 childrens' 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 that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- 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 those conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.
- Establish a district 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, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

(List actions.)

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 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

(List actions.)

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 name of school/district on mm/dd/yy and will be in effect for the period of school year . The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before date .

(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)

(Date)

*This template of a District/School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed by combining two documents, the modified version of the sample provided in the U.S. Department of Education Parental Involvement Guidance and the sample of the School Parental Involvement Policy provided by the North Dakota Title I Office.

School-Parent

Compact

School-Parent Compact TEMPLATE

Each school receiving funds under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I activities, services, and programs. That compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents. The compact must outline how parents, the school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

The **name of school** and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I agree that this compact outlines how they will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the **school year** school year.

REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS

School Responsibilities

The **name of school** will:

- 1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:**

[Describe how the school will provide high-quality curriculum and instruction, and do so in a supportive and effective learning environment.]

- 2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child’s achievement. Specifically, these conferences will be held:**

[Describe when the parent-teacher conferences will be held.]

- 3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children’s progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:**

[Describe when and how the school will provide reports to parents.]

- 4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:**

[Describe when, where, and how staff will be available for consultation with parents.]

- 5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:**

[Describe when and how parents may volunteer, participate, and observe classroom activities.]

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

[Describe the ways in which parents will support their children’s learning, such as:]

- *Monitoring attendance.*
- *Making sure that homework is completed.*
- *Monitoring amount of television my child watches.*
- *Volunteering in my child’s classroom.*
- *Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children’s education.*
- *Promoting positive use of my child’s extracurricular time.*
- *Staying informed about my child’s education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.*
- *Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I parent representative on the school’s School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State’s Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.*

**Schoolwide
Annual
Parent
Meeting**

REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF THE ANNUAL PARENT MEETING

Each year, Title I programs are required to host a meeting for parents to explain what the Title I program is and how parents can become involved in the Title I program. (This is different from the Annual Review Meeting, which is also a requirement). At this meeting, the following issues must be addressed:

- Explain their school's participation in Title I (whether they are schoolwide or targeted).
- Explain the Title I requirements (schoolwide or targeted, whichever is applicable).
- Explain what participation in Title I programming means, including:
 - A description and explanation of the school's curriculum;
 - Information on the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress; and
 - Information on the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Explain the district parental involvement policy, school parental involvement policy, and school-parent compact.
- Explain the right of parents to become involved in the school's programs and ways to do so.
- Explain that parents have the right to request opportunities for regular meetings for parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school must respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

In order to keep parents informed, schools must invite all parents of children participating in Title I Part A programs and encourage them to attend. In a schoolwide program, this means ALL parents should be invited; in a targeted assistance program, just those parents with children participating in Title I should be invited. Schools must also offer a flexible number of additional parental involvement meetings, such as in the morning or evening so that as many parents as possible are able to attend.

You must be able to document this meeting with minutes, agendas, sign-in sheets, etc. You may want to do more than the law requires for this meeting, especially if you often have problems with attendance.

Agenda for Annual Schoolwide Parent Meeting

Date _____

■ Family Activity—Display of student work

To get parents to attend the meeting, it is often helpful to begin the meeting by having some type of family activity that you've gotten the students excited about at school. Then encourage students to get parents to attend. Or, display the results of some student project on which the students have worked hard and that they would enjoy showing off to parents. Focus on making it fun for parents and students to come to school for this event and advertise it as if the schoolwide overview is only a secondary purpose of the meeting.

■ What is a schoolwide program? How do we still meet the needs of all students?

Schoolwide programming focuses on meeting the needs of all students in the regular classroom in addition to the add-on services supported through the implementation of the ten required components. Parents need to understand that, although the regular Title I pullout program may no longer exist, the needs of individual students are of paramount importance in a schoolwide program. Explain how you will identify students' needs and then meet those needs through varying instructional techniques and providing additional services when students are struggling. At this point it may be helpful to distribute to parents some type of flowchart or policy that illustrates how students will be assessed regularly to identify areas of need and the services that will be provided if a student is identified as needing more intensified instruction and services.

■ What are our schoolwide goals?

Explain to parents the goals that you have identified as a result of the needs assessment. Share with them how you researched the needs of your school and community, and share any particularly revealing data. Do not, however, overwhelm parents with data at this point. (Those parents who seem particularly interested or inquisitive about this process should be enlisted onto your schoolwide planning committee!) Explain the increase in student services and teacher professional development that has resulted from schoolwide programming.

■ How can parents be involved?

○ Individualized compact process

If you plan to design individualized compacts, briefly explain the process and that parents, students and teachers will work together to identify student learning goals and then share responsibility in reaching those goals.

○ Events for parents

Schoolwide programs are required to provide opportunities for parents to get involved in their child's education and to provide resources to parents that they can use to support learning at home. Share with parents what you plan to do to meet these components. They may be listed in your parental involvement policy, which could also be distributed to parents at this time. Remember that parental involvement activities should be focused on how parents can best help the school attain schoolwide goals.

○ Survey—what do you need to get involved?

Too often, educators tell parents what they can do to support the school. Instead, schoolwide staff needs to enlist parents in becoming partners in their child's education, which means sharing ideas on what both parents and teachers can do to work together to attain schoolwide goals. A good way to begin to open up this two-way communication with parents would be to either open up the meeting for ideas at this point or distribute a survey that asks parents what they would like to see the school do to get parents involved, to support parents, and to provide services that will assist their involvement.

■ Date of next scheduled event: _____

**Opportunities
for Training
Parents**

Opportunities for Training Parents

Title I regulations require programs to provide opportunities for training parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of the child at school and at home. In addition, programs should provide information regarding methods that parents can use at home to complement the child's instruction.

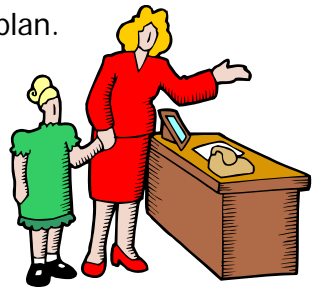
The following items are examples of how schoolwide programs could provide opportunities for training parents. These are only suggestions and are certainly not inclusive to the ways in which you could inform and train parents.

- Invite parents to an Annual Parent Meeting to explain the schoolwide program
- Provide parents with a school newsletter
- Provide parents with a school calendar of events
- Provide parents with strategies on working with their children at home
- Provide parents with a list of recommended books for children
- Invite parents to visit their child's classroom
- Survey parents annually to get their input into the schoolwide program
- Invite parents to a school open house
- Provide parents with information regarding how the schoolwide program works
- Involve parents in the design of the school compact
- Provide courses for parents, including:
 - Adult literacy courses
 - Homework help
 - Technology courses
 - Mathematics courses
 - Family literacy courses
 - Job seeking assistance

Ideas for Meeting the Requirement to Partner with Parents

Opportunities to promote the education of the child at home and at school—Partnering with Parents

- Host family nights to focus on the academic goals of the schoolwide plan.
- Enlist parents to participate on schoolwide committees.
- Ask parents to come to the school to present on areas of expertise.
- Assess parents to identify adult education classes in technology, the arts, and areas of their academic interest.
- Design parenting book clubs—ask an interested parent to coordinate the club and provide the school as a meeting place for parents to read interesting parenting books.
- Have a movie club. Each month, choose a particular movie that parents and students can watch together at the school or at home. Then host an activity night at the school that relates to the movie and education.
- Set goals for student learning with parents (could be done as part of the compact process).
- If there is a need, consider having classes at the school for parents to attain their GED or, if possible, by partnering with a college or through IVN to provide college level education classes.
- Provide childcare for all events hosted at the school.
- Have a homework club involving parents.



Information parents can use at home



- Send home information parents can use through the school newsletter.
- Go over the basics of SBR research with parents, especially regarding techniques that would be used at home.
- Set goals for student learning at a parent meeting (possibly at a parent-teacher conference), include responsibilities for parents and give clear information (maybe with handouts) on what they can do to meet their responsibilities.
- Organize backpack reading programs.
- Organize a movie month program—similar to the backpack reading program, design activity kits that go with certain movies. Parents and students can watch the movie together, then do educational activities that somehow align with the movie content. Examples could include reading books that have a similar theme or topic, writing activities, games, etc.
- Send assessment results (more than basic report cards) to parents. Include specific activities they could do at home to assist in weak areas identified in their child's assessment results.

Assessment of Parental Involvement

Sample



Parent Survey

Please complete this survey and return it to the person listed below. Your input is helpful in designing a school that best meets the needs of our students. Thank you.

1. Did you feel that you were encouraged to be involved in the development and implementation of our schoolwide plan?

Not at all	Some	Frequently
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3

2. Did you feel you were a part of the process for creating the school-parent compact?

3. Did you attend the fall parent meeting?

If yes, did you feel your input was expected and appreciated?

4. Did the parent policy accurately reflect the parental involvement program at our school?

5. Did you feel you were informed in a timely manner about your child's learning?

6. Did you utilize any of the material sent to you by our staff to promote working at home with your children?

7. Did you feel welcome at the school or whenever you communicated with our staff?

8. Were staff easy to contact when you had a question or problem, and did you feel your concern was taken seriously?

9. Would you like more opportunities for parental involvement at the school?

Suggestions: _____

10. I would be willing to help organize parental involvement activities.

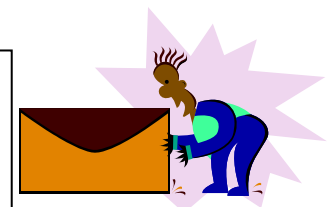


Contact Information: _____

Not at all	Some	Frequently
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3
1	2	3

Thank you for your participation.

Return survey to:



**Schoolwide
Annual
Review
Meeting**

Sample

Notice to Inform Parents of Annual Review Meeting Results

During the week of _____, our schoolwide leadership team conducted the Annual Review of our schoolwide program. To conduct the review, we gathered data on student achievement and analyzed the programs we've implemented to raise student achievement. Some highlights of the data that was gathered include the following:

-
-
-
-
-

As a result of the Annual Review meeting, we have made some changes that we hope will improve our schoolwide program and better support student achievement. We have made the following changes to our schoolwide plan:

-
-
-
-
-

If you would like more information on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact _____ at _____ or by email at _____.

Six Types
of
Parental
Involvement

Overview of the Six Types of Parental Involvement

Parental involvement has always been a key component in the Title I law. Three decades of research provide convincing evidence that parents are an important influence in helping their children achieve to high academic standards. A review of available research and literature on parental involvement indicates that there are multiple types of parental involvement. Dr. Joyce Epstein of Johns Hopkins University has developed a framework for defining six effective types of parental involvement. These include:

- Parenting—Professional workshops, training opportunities, and other ideas to assist families in parenting and assisting their child.
- Communicating—Conferences, report cards, academic progress, and other verbal communication with parents about their child.
- Learning at Home—Homework support, library resources, and other outside learning contacts to help parents assist their child.
- Volunteering—Through supporting school events, involvement with classroom activities, and other community opportunities for students and parents.
- Decision Making—Through attendance at school meetings, participation in addressing concerns, and by helping other parents.
- Collaborating with Community—Using community resources for school/family assistance, involvement of community groups in schools, and community/school mentoring programs.

**Additional
Information
on Parental
Involvement**

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction State Title I Office

Resources for Parental Involvement

Title I Website for Parents

- ❖ www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/parent/index.shtm

This website was created specifically for parents to help them easily find information on ways to become involved, access information regarding their school or district, and obtain resources aimed at helping them better enable their children to succeed in school.

Title I Monthly Parent Involvement Guide

- ❖ www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/require/parent/guide0607.pdf

This guide has been developed to assist schools in providing opportunities for training parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of the child at school and at home. Information is included regarding methods parents can use at home to complement their child's instruction.

Research-Based Documentation Tool

- ❖ www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/targeted/general/reauthoriz/researchtool.pdf

Pages 82-87 of this document specifically focus on research based strategies to help increase parental involvement in schools.

Ideas for Making Parents

Feel



Welcome!

- ❖ Place a “WELCOME” sign on your door.
- ❖ Send out “Invitations” to all parents to visit your classroom. Try not to use a negative tone when you suggest the best times for them to visit. You could also include a form they can return to you indicating when they are most easily reached.
- ❖ During events that bring parents to the school (concerts, games, etc.), put up posters around the school inviting parents to visit each classroom. If they do visit, give them an example of their child’s work to take home or an assignment for the parent and child to do together.
- ❖ Create a **Title I Parent Activity Leader** position. Responsibilities could include:
 - Enlisting a team of parents to help the school write the schoolwide school-parent compact.
 - Surveying parents regularly for ideas for parental involvement meetings.
 - Communicating regularly with parents (via a phone tree) about what’s happening within the school.
 - Recruiting other parents to become involved in the school activities.
 - Dividing up all parent volunteers into groups which have their own responsibilities. These could be minor, like bringing a treat to a meeting, or major, like examining portions of the compact or providing assistance to the classroom teachers.
 - Being in charge of a parent volunteer program. This could include heading a workshop training parents on various topics, as well as helping to schedule and enlist volunteers.
- ❖ Establish a book lending library, asking parents to complete a “book feedback form” for the books checked out by.
- ❖ Host a “Parents and Teachers Work Day” on a Saturday morning, after school, or a weekday evening. Ask parents to come in and help you cut out materials for the classroom or games that they can take home and use with their child.

More Ideas For Parental Involvement

- **Be the first to make contact with the parents.** Send out an introductory letter about yourself and your program. Include the best times to reach you (no negatives) and, if at all possible, include your home phone number and suggestions about when it is best to call you at home for those parents with unique schedules. Include a question you would like them to respond to, like explaining important information they think you should know about their child.
- **Send home weekly/monthly tips for studying.** Use simple things like writing topic ideas or suggestions parents can use. For example, “Remember, your role in your child’s study program is to encourage and support him or her.”
- **Journaling** is a good way to facilitate two-way communication between parents and teachers. If parent interest seems low, have the student write in the journal too, or send home completed student work with the journal and ask parents to comment.
- Create a daily/weekly **communication form** to use with parents.
- If a student is going on a **vacation**, require that they complete some sort of assignment about their vacation on the places they go and the things that they do. Send a note home describing the assignment and the role the parent should play helping the student complete it. If parents are willing, ask them to come in to a classroom and, together with the child, do a presentation to the class.
- Create lessons to do after students watch a good **family movie with their parents**. For example, using Disney movies, send home a copy of *Cinderella* for students and parents to read together. Then ask them to watch the movie and discuss the differences. Or examine Disney songs for theme, relation to plot, etc.
- Create **lessons around TV viewing** at home for students to do with parents. [Make sure this type of work stays within the Partnership Model by getting parental input on how the assignment went, asking them for suggestions for new ideas, etc.]
- Encourage parents to set up a quiet place for **study times** with their children. If possible, have an inservice with parents on suggestions for how to do this.
- Host **parent/family nights/days** at your school. Involve other teachers and classrooms in this process by asking them to present something to parents that they are doing in their classroom (puppet show, play, drawings, etc.). Build these events around things that parents can do at home with their children. Make sure parents play a role in these events by getting ideas from them for topics and asking them to be speakers or presenters.

- Order the **PTA's guide** for ideas and to see how to measure the parental involvement at your school.
- Require or ask parents to **evaluate some of their child's work** instead of you. This could be a general evaluation or a specific one. If you require a specific method, this could be another idea for a topic for parent/family nights.
- Spend **ten minutes of every day** doing something for parent communication: send five postcards, make five telephone calls, etc.
- Do an inservice with parents on the **computer programs** you use in the school.
- Ask local **businesses to help host** parent involvement meetings. Ask parent employers to support time off for parents volunteering at the school and family organized events.
- Make your **newsletter a form of two-way communication** by asking parents to write back to you about what the newsletter contains. Also, ask parents to contribute their own articles, including descriptions of activities they are doing at home that have been successful for them.
- **Host educational workshops** on topics like multiple intelligences, holiday educational games, communication (with students, parents, and teachers), study skills/studying at home, using TV as an educational tool, the writing process and/or developing writing skills, self esteem, community involvement, and creating a personal compact.
- Have a **parent bulletin board** in your room. Put up information like upcoming events and ask parents and students to include items as well. Also, hang up good examples of different students' work. Use the board to request parents to bring something to class, save soup labels, etc.
- Create a **video or slide show** of what's going on in the school. Send this home to parents as a way of showing how their involvement could help or show it at an activity and use it as a way to get parents to attend.
- Use all the **websites** to gather information to send home to parents:

www.kidsource.com

www.nea.org

www.ed.gov/Family