



**PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT**

The New Castle County Vocational-Technical School District Board of Education recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school district to effectively educate all students, the schools and parents/guardians must work as knowledgeable partners.

Although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. This school district, in collaboration with parents, will work towards establishing practices that enhance parent involvement, as is detailed in the subsequent guidelines, and will reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

The Board endorses national standards for parent/guardian and family engagement that include these core beliefs:

- Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful involving students' academic learning and other school activities;
- Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning;
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- 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.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIP GUIDELINES**

- A. Purpose: To establish guidelines on parent and family involvement and associated partnerships.
- B. Programs:
  - The school district will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools, including the process of school review, and improvement 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 each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
  - The school district will incorporate this district-wide parental involvement guideline into appropriate plans.
  - The school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

- If the District plan for Title I, Part A, as documented in the Consolidated Grant, 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, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A 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.

The NCCVT School District will implement the following statutory definition of parental involvement and expects that its 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-*

- *that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- *that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; 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, and*
- *the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in Title I law and guidance.*

Implementation activities included in the procedures and practices shall also include:

- The NCCVT School District will develop its district-wide parent involvement plan in consultation with parents of participating children.
- Involve parents in the process of school review and improvement.
- Coordinate technical assistance and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- ~~Coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: READ 180, PALS, instructional coaches, full-year Algebra/Integrated Math I.~~
- Build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure and support a partnership among the school, the parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A 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 Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators

The school district will, with the assistance of its 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.

NCCVT School District will ensure that 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. The District will pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.

- C. Review and Reporting: The NCCVT School District will conduct annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of all of its schools, including those schools participating in Title I, Part A. 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, procedures, and practices.
- D. Parent Communication: Parents of students in Title 1 schools can expect the following communication:
- Written communication at the beginning of the school year supplied in a school newsletter.
  - An annual meeting for parents at each Title 1 school in which the purpose and benefits of Title 1 funding is discussed. Parent involvement in the planning and delivery of Title 1 services will be sought. Timely information and a description of the curriculum will be discussed. To notify parents of these meetings, ~~postcard invitations will be mailed and Alert Now phone calls will be placed.~~ **multiple types of communication will be used (e.g. email, automated phone calls, social media).**
  - Additional parent meetings and opportunities for meetings to form will also occur in which school-specific topics pertaining to student academic achievement will be discussed. Schools will make these meetings at flexible times in order to accommodate a variety of parent working hours. At these meetings, parents will have an opportunity to review the school-wide Title 1 program and make comments.
  - At parent meetings, through newsletters, through e-news, and at Open House, schools will:
    - ❖ Assist parents in understanding state standards and district and state assessments in order to assist parent in improving the academic achievement of their child.
    - ❖ Provide material and training to help parents work with their child to improve academic achievement.
    - ❖ Describe to parents how schools educate their staff in the value and utility of reaching out to communicate with parents as equal partners in order to build ties between parents and the school.
    - ❖ Coordinate parent involvement programs, to the extent possible, that encourage and support parents to be a full participant in the education of their child.
    - ❖ Communicate with parents in a practical format and appropriate language.