

District School-Wide Parental Involvement Policy

2023-2024

Board of Education Approval 01/29/2024

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Each district in its District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. [Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]

The Northfield Community 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, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district-wide parental involvement policy into its plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, 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 under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If Northfield's plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, 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 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.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy must include a description of how the district will implement or accomplish each of the following components. [Section 1118 (a)(2), ESEA.]

1. The Northfield Community School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - Parent, staff and community member meetings, parent involvement nights, newsletters, school website, teacher and staff web pages, principal e-mail blasts and electronic newsletter home, Messenger telephone messages
2. The Northfield Community School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - Parent, staff, and community member review committee meetings
3. The Northfield Community School District will provide the following necessary coordination, 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:
 - Student data shared at parent/teacher conferences, school data shared at board meetings, School Report Card, newsletter postings, newspaper articles, letters from the principal, letters from the superintendent of schools.
4. The Northfield Community School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:
 - Individual Education Plan (IEP)
 - Resource Materials Obtainable for Parents
 - Informational Meetings/Events

- New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS)
- New Jersey PreSchool Intervention and Referral Team (PIRT)
- Conferences
- In-School Volunteering
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Website Links
- Use of electronic communication/technology

5. The Northfield Community 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, Part A 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 district goes to considerable lengths to ensure the participation of parents having a more difficult time becoming involved in their child's academic program and growth. The parents are identified early, as teacher outreach to parents begins immediately in the new school year. The NJTSS/PIRT Support Teams, the school nurse, the school guidance counselor, the building principal, and the support staff are involved in the well-being of each student. Children are referred to any team member listed, who will immediately begin the process of bringing a parent/guardian into the support of dynamics for the student, school, and district. The ESL support personnel have an open online support period twice weekly for support of parents and families.
6. The Northfield Community School District will build the schools' and parent's 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, 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 Title 1, Part A,
 - How to monitor their child's progress, and,
 - How to work with educators.
 - b. 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, by encouraging and presenting to parents on:
 - Volunteers
 - Study skills/tips

- Parent Academy for parent information
 - Biweekly parent online meetings and support sessions
- c. The school district will, with the assistance of its school 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 on how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
- Staff meetings and information shared by guidance counselors
- d. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities to help parents be involved.
- e. The school district will take the following actions to 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.
- All information sent home is in the language of the family. All phone calls are translated for the parent, and a translator assists teachers at parent/teacher conferences, meetings, online, and at brief after-school sessions and updates

PART IV. ADOPTION

The District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, on November 8, 2023.

The policy was created by the Northfield Community School District on November 8, 2023 and will be in effect for the period of the 2023-2024 school year. The school district will display and make available this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children immediately upon board approval, January 29, 2024, (front office, website, and notice home).

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Date)

Board of Education Approved January 29, 2024.