

DMPS Title I Parent Involvement Policy



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Title I Parent Involvement Program 2018-19 Des Moines Public Schools

The Des Moines Public Schools' (DMPS) Title I Parent Involvement Program provides the opportunity for parents to be involved jointly in the development of the Title I Schoolwide plans and in the school's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance and other supports necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions; and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. This jointly developed and agreed upon written parent involvement program is distributed to parents in all Title I schools through such things as newsletters, handbooks, or registration materials.
2. An annual meeting is held for all parents of participating children, both public and private. Additional meetings with flexible times are held throughout the year and determined jointly by parent and school suggestions.
3. Parents are given assistance in understanding the Title I requirements, standards, and assessments through the annual meetings and parent-teacher conferences.
4. Parents receive an explanation of the school's performance profile, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the expected proficiency levels in the annual progress report distributed to all stakeholders in the spring of the year, through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through report cards.
5. Parents are also informed about the curriculum, instructional objectives, and methods used in the program. This information is delivered through newsletters, conferences and the annual meetings.
6. Parent recommendations are encouraged and responded to in a timely manner. Verbal or written responses will be given for all recommendations.
7. Parents will be involved with the planning, review, and improvement of the Schoolwide Title I program through participation in a school-designated committee/team.
8. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve our local high standards. It is distributed to all families and is reviewed at the annual meetings.
9. The Title I program provides opportunities for parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of their children both at home and at school. Parents are given help monitoring their student's progress and provided assistance on how to participate in decisions related to their student's education. The school also provides other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents. Parents are encouraged to participate as volunteers in the school setting. Individual conferences will also be held upon request.
10. The school continues to coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, the parent involvement policy and other programs and activities within the district. Transitional information for students moving from fifth grade to sixth grade will be provided to parents in the spring.

11. An annual evaluation of this parental involvement policy shall be conducted to determine its effectiveness. Findings will be used to design strategies for school improvement and revision of policies. Parent meetings will provide opportunities for the discussions of program adjustments.

Providing all Des Moines Public School District's children with equal access to quality education is of primary purpose. It is crucial that all partners (students, parents, educators, and communities) have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this purpose. As these partnerships are mutually beneficial, developing cooperative efforts will ensure improved academic achievement for all students.