

WANETTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS - PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE: Wanette Public Schools promote parent involvement as mandated by the Oklahoma State Department of Education and work as equal partners with parents in providing quality learning experiences for every student, every day, without exception.

Wanette Public Schools believe and acknowledge that parent involvement raises the academic achievement level of students. When parents take an active role in educating their children, parents become empowered, teacher morale improves, and communities become stronger. Wanette Schools shall involve parents in the education of their children at all grade levels. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The Oklahoma State Department of Education establishes that to build capacity for parent involvement within schools, a district is to “develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of participating children a written Parent Involvement Policy.”

Wanette Public Schools believe that empowering parents to insist on improvement and giving them options regarding their children’s education, helps the district realize its vision to provide a quality education for all students. As a result of this belief, Wanette Schools shall create an environment of supportive and collaborative parent involvement.

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Wanette Public Schools agree 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 LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement policy 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.

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If the LEA 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 one 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 expect 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 district activities, to include 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. DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1) Wanette Public Schools 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:

- Through information in administrative newsletters and on the school website, parents will be invited to serve on planning committees.
- Parents will be invited to review the draft plan and also to serve on committees when the plans need to be reviewed and/or updated.

2). Wanette Public Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- A parent survey will be distributed in the spring.
- Dissemination of test scores and API will be included in administrative newsletters.
- Notice of Title I meetings will be published in local newspapers, in administrative newsletters, and/or posted on the school’s website. Notification may also be made through the use of the school’s automated phone system.
- School Report Card will be published yearly.

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3) Wanette Public Schools 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:

- The principals and superintendent will coordinate activities that help parents monitor their child's progress, provide academic support, participate in the decision-making process, volunteer, and be involved in community activities.
- During after school programs, parents may visit the school library with their children and read with them.
- Teacher newsletters will communicate components being covered, methods for parents to utilize in assisting their children with academic subjects, and the types of evaluation procedures that will be used to determine academic progress.
- The school's automated phone system will be utilized to keep parents informed about upcoming activities.
- Materials will be available in our Parent Resource Center for parents to check out to assist them in helping their children build upon their math, reading, and language skills at home. These will include handouts pertaining to educational topics, as well as, schedules, policies, and other information.

4) Wanette Public Schools will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

- Pre-Kindergarten is part of the Wanette Public School System and is housed at the same site as the elementary and high school. All parental involvement policies for Wanette Schools apply to Pre-Kindergarten, as well.

5) Wanette Public Schools 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.

- A Parent Survey will be disseminated. Information will be reviewed and actions taken to make necessary changes to increase parental involvement. In addition, if necessary, parental involvement policies will be revised (with the involvement of parents).

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6) Wanette Public Schools will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support and partnership among the school involved, 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:
 - A) the State's academic content standards;
 - B) the State's student academic achievement standards;
 - C) the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments;
 - D) the requirements of Part A;
 - E) how to monitor their child's progress; and
 - F) how to work with educators, utilizing the school website, parental workshops, and parent-teacher conferences.
- The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. Parental training will be given in the use of technology (such as the internet) in order to monitor activities and information posted on the school and community websites. Also, this training would provide parents with skills necessary to communicate with teachers and other parents via the internet. Through the use of teacher and principal newsletters, parents would be given key tips, guidelines for the essential components of reading and math, and key website lists as a tool to locate further information.
- The school district will, with the assistance of its 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; implement and coordinate parent programs; build ties between parents and schools by providing professional development activities; and include parents in the development of training. Also, the school district will provide websites with information on parental involvement, as well as, disseminate information in administrative newsletters, staff meetings, and through the use of the school's automated phone system.
- The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs, conduct activities with other supplemental programs, and also provide Parent Resource Centers that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children

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PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Wanette Public Schools may implement the following:

- provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonable and available sources of funding for that training;
- train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- arrange school meetings at a variety of times, in order to maximize parental involvement, 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-wide 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; and,
- provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118, as parents may request.