

# Montpelier Public School Title I District Parental Involvement Policy

## **PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS**

Each school district must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement.

**Montpelier Public 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 **Montpelier Area School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district parental involvement plan:

During the fall parent meeting parents and staff will collaborate and make effective changes as needed in the Parent Involvement Policy. This document will be updated annually and will be distributed to all Title I parents. We will give parents an equal opportunity to input ideas and help evaluate the policy's effectiveness each year by providing opportunities at the fall parent meeting for specific suggestions and recommendations. A parents' survey is also sent out annually to give parents a chance to voice their feelings in writing. The results are then tallied and shared with parents and staff.

2. The **Montpelier Area 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:

Title I staff will purchase materials in the spring to use with their parent involvement activities. Example: Home to school folders will be utilized to assist in communication and to support organization. Monthly newsletters written by the Title I teacher with the express purpose of building better study habits, encouraging reading, and enhancing the learning of math will be published in the school newsletter. During the annual parent meeting, parents will also be surveyed as to what activities they would be interested in during the school year.

3. **Montpelier Area 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 Title I staff will share the following with parents during the scheduled fall and spring parent-teacher conferences. Every effort will be made to meet with the parent if they are not able to attend on the scheduled days. The staff will make sure that parents understand all aspects of their children's education. If there are issues parents do not understand, they should feel comfortable asking the school system to hold sessions to teach them about those areas. Areas the Montpelier School District will provide information on during the 2012-2013 school year:

- 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,
- How to work with educators, and
- Any other subject area that a parent or staff member brings as a concern

The Title I Staff will have the opportunity to attend Spring and Fall conferences as offered. Staff is also encouraged to continue taking graduate classes and workshops as they are offered.

The 5% set aside dollars will be used to continue staff development on an on-going basis.

- B. **Montpelier Area School District** will, 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:

Sending home brochures on homework tips, share software recommendations and web sites that  
The Title I staff will:

- Submit articles to the monthly school newsletter.
- E-mail information to parents.
- Provide technology training as the need arises.
- Provide parents with a list of recommended books for children
- Send home brochures and booklets on helping your child with reading and math

C. **Montpelier Area District** will 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: educating school staff, with the assistance of parents at staff meetings, in the value of parent contributions and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents to build ties between home and school. School staff is also invited to all Title I meetings, including the Annual Review and the Fall Annual Parent Meeting.

D. **Montpelier Area Elementary 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:

Offering a Preschool program that is aligned with the North Dakota Early Learning Standards.

E. **Montpelier Area Elementary 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:

A Title I annual parent meeting will be held on **August 15th**. This meeting will cover the results of the annual review meeting from last spring, information on our Schoolwide Title I program, how children will be assessed to determine growth and how and when the assessment information will be sent home to parents. This meeting will also give parents the opportunity to actively participate and have input into the Title I program.

4. **Montpelier Area School District** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: such as but not limited to: Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, and state-operated preschool programs if they become available.

5. **Montpelier Area 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.

MPS will work with parents to determine if the parent involvement policy in place is effective. The MPS will work with a group of parents to decide how it could be a stronger tool for improving the quality of the district Title I program, and determine how to use the program to ensure a voice for parents in the process.

Prior to the annual review meeting parents will be given a copy of the compact and policies and asked to review in before the scheduled annual meeting. During the annual meeting changes and editions will be made.

6. The **Montpelier Area School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

It is part of our NCA process to involve parents in establishing relevant and achievable goals through parent surveys and interviews.

### **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 children's' 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 childcare 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 **August 15, 2023 meeting minutes.**

This policy was adopted by the **Montpelier Public School District** **December 8, 2015** and will be in effect for the period of **2022-2023**. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before **January 15th, 2023**.

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*(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)*

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*(Date)*