

RED HOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY #5404

Title I Parental and Family Engagement Policy

The Board of Education of the Red Hook Central School District (“District”) believes that parental involvement and engagement are essential to student success and achievement. Title I, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), provides for substantive parental involvement at every level of the program, including but not limited to, the development and implementation of the State and local plan, and in carrying out the improvement plan of the District.

In implementing the following policy, the Red Hook Central School District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects all Red Hook schools to 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 1010 of ESSA of 2015.

The Board of Education encourages such involvement in educational planning and operations and agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- (A) The District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs, consistent with section 1010, entitled, “Parent and Family Engagement” of the Every Student Succeeds Act. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- (B) To the extent practicable, the 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, in a language parents understand.
- (C) The District will engage parents in discussions, and involve parents in decisions, about how the 1 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.

HOW THE RED HOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The District will take actions to elicit feedback from parents regarding parent involvement.
2. The District will invite parents of students who have been selected for Title I services to attend an informational meeting at the beginning of the school year. This event happens

during the Open House at the secondary level and the Mill Road Elementary School Title I Night.

3. The District will provide the necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Red Hook schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
4. The District will 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.
5. The 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 schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through parent/student workshops on topics such as ways to support child development in literacy, math and performance on state assessments. The District will additionally be open to alternative ideas as presented by the parents or staff of the District.
6. The District will support parent efforts through training in such aspects as assisting students in understanding program requirements and fostering motivation to attend school and complete homework.
7. The District will respond to parent suggestions and/or concerns in a timely manner.
8. 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:
 - 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, and
 - how to work with educators.
10. The school district will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement. Such training may include literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
11. The 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:

DISCRETIONARY ACTIVITIES

The District may:

- provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I 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 child care 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, the District may 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-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I 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 1010 as parents may request.

This District-wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs.

This policy will be adopted by the Red Hook Central School District, in compliance with requirements set forth in the Every Student Succeeds Act on December 15, 2015, and will be in effect for the period of one year, whereupon parents and the District will meet and discuss the effectiveness of such policy as it is written and make changes to said policy collaboratively. The Red Hook Central School District will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children.

Procedures for Filing Complaints/Appeals

The District will disseminate free of charge to parents and family members of children in Title I programs, and to appropriate private school officials or representatives, adequate information regarding the District's written complaint procedures for resolving Title I issues.