

MOUNTAIN IRON-BUHL ISD 712

District Parent Involvement Policy/Procedures 2011/2012

Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

Each school district must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. [Section 1118 (a) (2), ESEA.]

The Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD agrees to implement the following requirements:

- Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 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.
- Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level Parental Involvement Policy/Procedure meet the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will incorporate this district-wide Parental Involvement Policy/Procedures into its district plan.
- In carrying out the Title I parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 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 Mountain Iron-Buhl 712 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 Minnesota Department of Education.
- Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools 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.)

- Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in Minnesota (i.e., Minnesota Parent Center, Bloomington, MN.)

PART II. DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development/revision of its district parent involvement policy/procedures:

A new Title I Advisory Committee will be established yearly. Members will include: Parents of Title I students, the Title I teachers, the Elementary Principal/Superintendent. This committee will meet for the purpose of program planning and evaluation. Yearly findings will result in modifications of the plan to increase parent involvement and communication. The Parent Committee Representatives on the Title I Advisory Committee will provide continual updates to the families of Title I students.
2. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will involve parents in the joint development of district plan, review and improvement [i.e. district plan, *section 1112*, school wide *section 1114*, and /or school improvement *section 1116*];

Parents will be notified by letter that their child qualifies for the Title I program. The Title I teacher will confer with the parent to share academic strengths/concerns to explain Title I expectations/program benefits, and set goals for the year. At the fall conference the Parent/Title I Teacher/Student Compact is reviewed and discussed. This agreement is a school and home commitment to provide the highest level of support for the child. Parent support, school attendance, and completion of home activities are vital to the child's progress thus required for the student to remain in the program. A spring parent/teacher conference will be held to discuss program achievements and future goals.
3. Mountain Iron-Buhl 712 will provide the 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.
4. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 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 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, and
- How to work with educators

District representatives will attend the annual MAASFP convention.

- B. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I 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:
- Provide pertinent Title I information in handouts to parents.
 - Provide educational computer sites.
 - Provide access to NWEA Reading levels for Title I parents.
 - Provide information for suggested educational software for parental purchase.
 - Provide access to introduce parents to Parent Portal during Open House.
- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I 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, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
- Provide tips and information for staff and parents to create effective homework and assignment policies.
 - Provide teachers and staff knowledge on how to access and interpret NWEA results and plan needed intervention and skill development.
 - Communicate with parents through open house, parent/teacher conferences, child study meetings, and staff meetings.
- D. The school district will 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:
- Provide open house for Title I parents in the fall, parent/teacher conferences.
 - Provide scheduled Title I meetings during fall open house.
 - Provide opportunities for parents for hands on activities throughout the year.
 - Encourage parents to participate in Head Start or Early Childhood Family Education programs/activities throughout the year.

E. The 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:

- Provide pertinent information about the Title I program via the Ranger Newsletter.
- Provide newspaper articles to inform public of upcoming meetings/programs.
- Provide fall & spring parent/teacher conferences.
- Provide advisory meetings to evaluate programs and determine what positive changes and improvements can be made in various facets of the program.

5. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 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.

- Propose to develop a survey using parental input from Title I parents, regular elementary teaching staff, special education staff, Title I staff, and administration.
- The elementary principal/Title I director will be responsible for implementing changes if needed.

6. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will involve parents in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parental involvement activities:

- Parents will have input during open house and parent involvement committee meetings.

PART II. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY/PROCEDURES COMPONENTS

Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 Parental Involvement Policy/Procedures 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 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, 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 III. ADOPTION

Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 Parental Involvement Policy/Procedures has been developed/revised jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidence by meeting minutes.

This Parent Involvement Policy/Procedures was developed/revised by Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 on 5/25/09 and will be in effect until amended. Mountain Iron-Buhl ISD 712 will distribute this policy/procedures to all parents of participating Title I children on or before October 1 of each school year.

John A. Klarich
 (Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)

9/7/10
 (Date)

