MERRIMACK SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

The Board endorses the parent involvement goals of Title I and encourages the regular participation by parents of Title I eligible children in all aspects of the program. The education of children is viewed as a cooperative effort among the parents, school and community. In this policy, the word "parent" also includes guardians and other family members involved in supervising the child's schools.

Pursuant to federal law, the District will develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to parents of children participating in the Title I program a written parent involvement policy.

At the required annual meeting of Title I parents, parents will have opportunities to participate in the design, development, operation and evaluation of the program for the next school year. Proposed activities shall be presented to fulfill the requirements necessary to address the requirements of parental involvement goals.

At the required annual meeting and at other parent involvement activities planned throughout the school year and summer, parents will be provided with:

- 1. Information about programs provided under Title I;
- 2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- 3. Opportunities to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children; and
- 4. The opportunity to bring parent comments, if they are dissatisfied with the school's Title I program, to the district level.

Title I funding, if sufficient, may be used to facilitate parent attendance at meetings through payment of transportation and childcare costs.

The parents of children identified to participate in Title I programs shall receive from the school Language Arts Coordinator and the district Title I Coordinator an explanation of the reasons supporting each child's selection for the program, and a description of the services to be provided. Opportunities are provided for parents to meet with their child's teacher to discuss student progress with input from the respective tutor. Parents might also meet with the tutor to learn how they can assist in the child's education at home.

Resources:

"National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs," National PTA (reprinted May 1998); Improving America's Schools Act, P.L. No. 103-382, Sec. 1112; Local Education Agency Plans. P.L. 107-110, "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001", Title I - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, Sec. 1118 Policy.

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