

Mesa Elementary School 400 Camino Del Rey Fountain, CO 80817 719-382-1370

Mesa Title I School/Parent Involvement Policy and Compact

This policy and compact has been jointly developed and agreed upon by the Mesa Elementary School and parents of students served in the school pursuant to Title I (hereafter referred to as "parents").

Policy

The administration, staff and parents of this school believe that the improved academic achievement of each student is a responsibility shared by the entire school community, including the school district, school, community members, school administration, staff, students, and parents (as defined for purposes of this policy to include guardians and all members of a student's family involved in the student's education).

Parent involvement activities in the school will include opportunities for:

- Parents to volunteer and be involved in school activities
- Staff development and parent education
- Parents to provide home support for their student's education
- Parents to participate in school decision-making
- Effective communication between the school and parents group. If appropriate, as determined by individual staff members and parents, individual compacts, based on the school compact, may then be developed. In such case, staff members and parents should feel free to include additional responsibilities or bring more specificity to responsibilities already listed.

Compact

The school will:

- Provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment enabling students to meet the state academic standards.
- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I programs, plans and policies.

School Parent Involvement Policy, the administration will:

- Facilitate and implement the Title I Parent Involvement policy.
- Involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of the School Parent Involvement Policy at least annually.
- Provide notice to parents of the School Parent Involvement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Make the School Parent Involvement Policy available to the community.

With regard to parent meetings, the administration will:

- Convene annual meetings to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I, the requirements of Title I and the right of parents to be involved.
- Inform parents of all meetings and encourage and invite parents to attend.
 Meetings shall be offered at various convenient dates and times to facilitate attendance by parents.

With regard to Title I Programs and Plans, the administration will:

- Inform parents about the goals and purposes of Title I, any Title I programs at the school, the curriculum used in the programs, the academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
- Involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of any Title I programs at the school.
- If the Title I plan is not satisfactory to the parents, submit any parent comments on the plan when it is submitted to the district.
- If requested by parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings of parents and the school where parents may offer suggestions and ask questions regarding Title I policies and programs.
- Administrators will provide timely responses to parents' suggestions and questions.
- Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor their student's academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of the student.

With regard to professional development, the administration will:

- With the assistance of parents, educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff in:
 - the value and utility of contributions of parents
 - how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners
 - implementing and coordinating parent programs
 - building ties between parents and the school

With regard to the coordination with other programs, the administration will:

• To the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the 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 student.

Shared responsibilities of administration and staff Administration and staff will:

• Provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, how to monitor

- their student's academic progress and how to work with school staff to improve the achievement of the student.
- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their student to improve the student's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology as appropriate, to foster parental involvement.
- Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents in a format and in a language that may be something other than English, but also to address the education level and other factors that affect comprehensibility.
- Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.
- Provide access to educational resources for parents to use together with their students.

Responsibilities of staff

The staff will:

- Assist the administration in facilitating and implementing the Title I Parent Involvement policy and parent involvement activities.
- Advise parents of their student's progress on a regular basis.
- Be readily accessible to parents and provide opportunities for parents to
 meet with them on a regular basis to discuss their student's progress and
 to participate as appropriate in the decisions relating to their student's
 education. For elementary schools [may want to include this provision for
 all grade levels], at least one parent/teacher conference shall be held each
 year during which the School-Level Title I Parent Involvement Policy
 (School/Parent Compact) will be discussed as it relates to the student's
 achievement.
- Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their student's class and observe classroom activities.

Responsibilities of parents

Parents will:

- Support their student's learning at home by:
 - monitoring attendance
 - monitoring completion of homework
 - · monitoring television watching
 - encouraging positive use of extracurricular time
- · Volunteer in the classroom.
- Participate, as appropriate, in decisions related to their student's education.
- Participate in school activities on a regular basis.
- Actively communicate with school staff regarding their student's needs and circumstances.
- Be aware of and follow rules and regulations of the school and school district.

Title I is a federally funded program to help students meet the standards in reading and math. The Fountain - Fort Carson School District Title I Program serves three elementary (Abrams, Aragon and Mountainside) and one middle school (Carson) in the district.