

# Spearfish School District Title I -- Parent Involvement Plan 2018-2019

## **I. General Expectations**

Spearfish School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Plan and operate programs, activities, and procedures with meaningful consultation of parents.
- Ensure that each school maintains a school parent involvement policy, including a school-parent compact that meets the goals of the district parent involvement policy.
- Incorporate the district wide parent involvement policy in the school district goals.
- Provide full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and reports in an understandable and uniform format, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Submit any parent comments if the district parent involvement policy is not satisfactory.
- Involve parents of children in Title I in decisions about how funds for parental involvement are spent; ensuring that not less than 95 percent of this funding goes directly to the schools.
- Carry out programs, activities, and procedures using the following definitions and principles:
  - Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.
- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- 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.

**Note:** All of the above stated General Expectations meet requirements consistent with section 1111, 1112, and 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA).

## **II. Description of How District Will Implement Required District Parent Involvement Policy Components**

**A.** Spearfish Schools will take the following actions to involve parents in the *joint development of its district parent involvement policy*:

- Establish a School Parent Advisory Committee; parent representatives from each school committees and at least one teacher from each school will serve on the comprehensive planning committee, which will review parent involvement planning in addition to the comprehensive plan. Meetings will occur annually in October, March, July and as needed.
- Meet with advisory groups throughout the year at flexible times to discuss: goals and budget, division-wide event(s), development and reflection on the parent policy, and other needs addressed by parents.
- Present the proposed Parent Involvement Plan developed and approved by the Advisory Council to the District Strategic Planning committee in July, and parents in each Title I school at the Fall Open House(s).
- Make copies of the Title I district plan available to all parents in the district in hard copy and on our district webpage, and make copies of the Title I district and school plans available on the district website.
- Revise the policy, as needed, each spring based on an annual evaluation.

**B.** Spearfish School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the *process of school review and improvement*:

- Include parents in reviewing school data and making recommendations to positively impact the academic needs of the school.

C. Spearfish School District will provide the following coordination, assistance, and support to assist Title I schools in ***planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:***

- Invite Title I Coordinator and/or Parent Coordinator to each school-wide team meeting. Each team is responsible for coordinating parent involvement activities (such as literacy, math, or other events as determined by team goals and needs) designed to educate and involve parents. Representation on each school's committee will ensure consistency throughout the district and an ongoing commitment to parent involvement.
- Conduct at least two parent events at each school, including one annual parent orientation meeting (open house) to explain the Title I programs to parents and a flexible number of additional parent meetings convenient to parents (morning coffees, evening programs, flexible conference hours, etc.).
- Offer services, including books and summer reading materials to support schools' efforts to improve student achievement.
- Offer transportation, child care, or home visits, as determined necessary by each school.

• D. Spearfish School District will ***coordinate and integrate parent involvement strategies with preschool programs and other community agencies.***

- Collaborate with preschools on parent meetings and other services.
- Invite community organizations like Parent Resource Network, Parks and Recreation, Public Library, Boy Scouts, Team Mates, Big Brother/Big Sisters, etc. into the schools.
- Plan and conduct an annual family event involving collaboration of multiple community agencies, to support family involvement.
- Provide physical space and personnel for collaborative programs.

E. Spearfish School District will ***conduct an evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the quality of Title I schools.*** The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater parent participation (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantages, disabled, limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or minority background.) The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parent involvement policy to design strategies for more effective parent involvement and revise its parent involvement policies.

- Have parents complete a parent survey annually to evaluate effectiveness of the parent involvement policy and activities.
- Compile results of surveys and evaluations, and share with district PAC and school PAC.
- Use information from surveys and evaluations to revise the district and school policies each spring.

### **III. Building Capacity for Parent Involvement**

Spearfish School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent 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 ***provide assistance to parents in understanding topics***, such as: the State's academic content and achievement standards, academic assessments including alternative assessments, requirements of Title I (Part A), how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators.
- Create newsletters pertaining to each of these topics that will be made available on the district website and distributed periodically to parents at each school through the use of "Student Take-Home Folders."
  - Provide workshops, classes, and programs at the district and school level that specifically address some of the above listed topics, as well as other topics requested by parents.

- Distribute a schedule of parent/teacher conferences (two per year are included in the school calendar).
  - Ensure that schools provide individual student report about performance of their child on state assessment.
  - Ensure that schools provide information about programs that includes a description and explanation of school's curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure children's progress, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  - Ensure that schools provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, to observe classroom activities, to meet regularly for suggestions, and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
- B. The school district will ***provide materials and training to help parents work with children to improve their children's academic achievement***, such as literacy training, and using technology to foster parent involvement.
- Provide workshops, classes, and programs at the district and school level that specifically address training with literacy, math, and technology, as well as other topics requested by parents through surveys and committee meetings.
  - Create materials for parents (such as bookmarks of literacy tips, etc.), based on school goals. Make these materials available at district and school events.
  - Conduct community outreach, providing materials and training at various community sites as needed.
- C. The school district will ***educate its teachers, 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.
- Use parents to work with school staff about the value of parental involvement and strategies for working more closely with parents.
  - Incorporate a parent involvement emphasis in all Title I teacher meetings.
  - Actively engage the Parent Advisory Council in decision-making, where it can offer advice, provide a voice, and help educate teachers and staff about matters related to parent involvement.
- D. The school district will ***coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with preschool 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.***
- Refer to Part II, D.
- E. The school district will ***ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.***
- Send information in the Student Take-Home folders.
  - Publicize information on the district website, school bulletin boards and entrances, and media (i.e. newspaper and television), when applicable.
  - Translate forms into other languages, as necessary, and to the extent possible. Collaborate with ELL (English Language Learner) teacher to sure that information is communicated clearly to parents.

#### **IV. Adoption**

This District Parent Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by signatures of all attending parents and staff members. This plan was adopted by the Spearfish School District and is reviewed annually by the comprehensive planning committee. The District will distribute this policy to parents in Mountain View, Creekside and West Elementary Schools via electronic notification, at Parent Conferences/Meetings, and/or through our District and school websites.