

Title I Parent Involvement Policy
Reviewed and Updated for the 2018-2019 School Year
Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District

It is the policy of Martensdale-St. Marys Community Schools that parents of participating children shall have the opportunity to be involved jointly in the development of the district plan and in the district's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance and other supports necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions; and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. This jointly agreed upon written policy is distributed to parents of participating Title I children and all parents.
2. Two annual meetings are held, for all parents of participating children, both public and private. Additional meetings with flexible times shall be held throughout the year and be determined by parent suggestions. The Martensdale-St. Marys Elementary will hold two annual meetings, one in the fall and one in the spring. Notification will be sent in the building newsletter.
3. Parents are given assistance in understanding the Title I requirements, standards, and assessments through the annual meetings and parent-teacher conferences.
4. Parents receive an explanation of the school's performance profile, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the expected proficiency levels in the annual progress report distributed to all box holders in the spring of the year, through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through report cards.
5. In targeted assistance buildings parents are informed of and involved with their child's participation in the Title I program. They also are informed about the curriculum, instructional objectives, and methods used in the program. This information is delivered through newsletters, conferences and the annual meetings.
6. Parent recommendations are encouraged and responded to in a timely manner. Verbal or written responses will be given for all recommendations.
7. Parents will be involved with the planning, review, and improvement of the targeted assistance programs. The vehicle used will be the Quality Support Committee. If the targeted assistance program is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, they may submit comments to the Quality Support Committee.
8. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve our local high standards. It is distributed at registration and is reviewed at the annual meeting.

9. The Title I program provides opportunities for parents to become partners with the school in promoting the education of their children both at home and at school. Parents are given help monitoring their student's progress and provided assistance on how to participate in decisions related to their student's education. The school also provides other responsible support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents. Parents are encouraged to participate as volunteers in the school setting. Individual conferences will also be held upon request.
10. The school continues to coordinate and integrate, to the extent feasible and appropriate, the parent involvement policy and other programs and activities within the district.
11. An annual evaluation of this parental involvement policy shall be conducted to determine its effectiveness. Findings will be used to design strategies for school improvement and revision of policies. The annual spring meetings will serve as the site for the discussions of program adjustments.

Providing all Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District's children with equal access to quality education is of primary purpose. It is crucial that all partners (students, parents, educators, and communities) have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this purpose. As these partnerships are mutually beneficial, developing cooperative efforts will ensure improved academic achievement for all students.