

# Helms Middle School Parental Involvement Policy

**NOTE:** In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each school that receives Title I, Part A (Title I) funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a School Parental Involvement Policy that contains information required by section 1118(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The policy establishes the schools' expectations for parental involvement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities. The school's school-parent compact is incorporated into the School Parental involvement Policy.

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## **PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Helms Middle School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school will jointly develop with parents, distribute to parents of participating children, a School Parental Involvement Policy that the school and parents of participating children agree on.
- The school will notify parents about the School Parental Involvement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, will distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.
- The school will make the School Parental Involvement Policy available to the local community.
- The school will periodically update the School Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
- The school will adopt the school's school-parent compact as a component of its School Parental involvement Policy.
- The school agrees to be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition.

*Parental involvement means the participation in regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—*

*(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*

*(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's education at school;*

*(C) that 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;*

*(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 the ESEA.*

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

**1. Helms Middle School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and joint agreement of its School Parental Involvement Policy and its school wide plan, if applicable, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way under section 1118(b) of the ESEA:

- *The school will plan, review, and improve of the Title 1 program*
- *The school will gather and disseminate to parents for review the following materials: District wide Parental Involvement Policy, the Helms Parental Involvement Policy, the school-parent compact, and Parent Notices through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*

**2. Helms Middle School** will take the following actions to distribute to parents of participating children and the local community, the School Parental Involvement Policy:

- *The school will distribute the policy by posting it in our yearly handbook, student schedule and will be reviewed at parent meetings as parents are informed of the Helms Parent Compact.*

**3. Helms Middle School** will update its School Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school *each year as part of the school plan revision process.*

**4. Helms Middle School** will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the following:

- a. That their child's school participates in Title I,
- b. About the requirements of Title I,
- c. Of their rights to be involved,
- d. about their school's participation in Title I:

- *The school will distribute information regarding Title I to parents through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*

**5. Helms Middle School** will hold a flexible number of meetings at varying times, and provide transportation, child care, and home visits, paid for with Title I funding as long as these services relate to parental involvement:

- *The school will determine what is needed to reach hard to reach parents, e.g., in addition to babysitting, transportation, the planning of special events that parents find particularly useful and or of interest of them. These meetings will explain strategies authorized under Title I.*

6. **Helms Middle School** will provide timely information about Title I programs to parents of participating children in a timely manner:
  - *The school will distribute information regarding Title I to parents through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*
7. **Helms Middle School** will provide to parents of participating children a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet:
  - *The school will distribute curriculum, assessment and proficiency level information to parents through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*
8. **Helms Middle School** will provide parents of participating children if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible:
  - *All parent are invited to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children at monthly SSC and ELAC meetings.*
9. **Helms Middle School** will submit to the district any parent comments if the school wide plan under section (1114)(b)(2) is not satisfactory to parents of participating children:
  - *The school will submit to the district any parent comments if the school wide plan under section (1114)(b)(2) is not satisfactory to parents of participating children.*

### **PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

1. **Helms Middle School** will build the schools' and parent's 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:
  - *The school will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*
2. The school will incorporate the school-parent compact as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy:
  - *The school will incorporate the school-parent compact as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy through phone calls, mailings, the student agenda, parent-teacher conferences, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*

3. The school will, with the assistance of its district, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school 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:
  - *The school will provide activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-State and out-of State, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.*
4. The school and Helms Community Project will, with the assistance of its district 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 *providing a variety of parents classes as needed.*
5. The school will, with the assistance of its district 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 *providing on-going training through scheduled collaboration time.*
6. The school *and HCP* will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and *activities with State Gear Up and other programs*, and conduct other activities, *such as PIQE*, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their child.
7. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, take the following actions to ensure that 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 alterative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
  - *The school will ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs is in an understandable and uniform format, through phone calls, mailings, SSC and ELAC meetings, PIQE meetings, quarterly principal-family meetings, Back to School Night and Open House.*

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

*Helms Middle School will:*

- involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- provide necessary literacy and ELD training for parents from Title I 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 time, or conducting 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;
- promote attendance at the district wide 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; and
- provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

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**PART IV. ADOPTION**

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidence by *March 7, 2006 School Site Council minutes*.

This policy was adopted by the **Helms Middle School** on **March 7, 2006** and will be in effect for the period of *one year*. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before April 1, 2006. It will be made available to the local community on or before April 1, 2006. **Helms Middle School’s** notification to parents of this policy will be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provide a copy of this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.

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(Signature of Authorized Official)

*approved 1/17/06*

*(Date)*