

Marshall Public Schools Parent Involvement Policy

Our Vision

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers. When a connection and partnership in education are formed cooperatively, positive results happen. High student achievement, a reduction in absenteeism and improved behavior are developed between parents and staff.

Part I-Policy Involvement

The Marshall Public Schools Parent Involvement Policy was created as a collaborative effort between parents and staff. Parents played a key role in the development of this policy and we continue to utilize their feedback and suggestions in order to update and improve our Title I services.

Marshall Public Schools will:

- Hold an annual Title I meeting in the Fall and Spring (in all identified buildings)
- The purpose of these meetings will be to share our Title I plans for the school year, review the School/District Parent Involvement Policy, and talk about how parents can be involved in helping their child be successful
- Parents will be notified of the meetings utilizing written communication (letters), reminder notes, along with phone call reminders
- At least one of the meetings will be informational and generated as a family- fun themed night. Families will be provided with materials for home, such as, books, writing materials and suggestions for family reading at home

Marshall Public Schools will offer flexible meeting times, locations, and varied activities designed to support and encourage the involvement of all parents:

- Open House/Curriculum Nights
- Parent Workshops (daycare provided)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- PCO Activities (meetings, fun fair, science fair, movie nights, etc.)
- Flexible IEP times
- March Is Reading: Family Fun/Literacy Nights
- Field Trips
- Scholastic Book Fairs
- Accelerated Reader recognitions
- Contact with intervention specialists and counselor
- Classroom Volunteers

Marshall Public Schools will involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving our Title I programming, including the District Parent Involvement Policy.

Marshall Public Schools will ensure the involvement of parents in planning and reviewing Title I programming by:

- Reviewing the School Parent Involvement Policy at the first parent meeting of the year
- Posting the parent Involvement Policy for parents to review on our web site
- Reviewing and distributing Parent Compacts during Parent/Teacher conferences and at the beginning of a student's program
- Conducting Parent surveys during Parent/Teacher conferences and at the end of the school year
- Offering opportunities to review and revise the Parent Involvement Policy to incorporate suggestions based on the Parent Survey results, throughout the school year
- Holding a Title I meeting at least twice each year, to review the Title I program, Parent Involvement Policy, and ask for suggestions for improvement

Marshall Public Schools will provide timely information regarding our Title I Programs, the academic curriculum, assessments used to measure progress, and grade level expectations.

Marshall Public Schools will provide timely information through:

- Annual Title I meetings
- Fall Curriculum Nights/Open-House
- Parent Conferences (November and February and additional conferences upon request)
- School/Classroom Newsletters/District Newsletters
- Progress Reports and Report Cards
- Home visits (GRSP Preschool)
- District Web Site - Policy
- Parent Workshops (children included)
- Telephone calls/E-mail correspondence
- Student Handbook

Marshall Public Schools will provide parents with the opportunity to interact with teachers regarding the education of their children, include parents in the decision making process and utilize their suggestions for improvement, and revise the

Title I Plan to meet student and parent needs, and share revisions with appropriate administrators and stakeholders.

Marshall Public Schools will provide parents an opportunity to interact with their children's school by:

- Conducting a Parent Survey in the winter/spring for all parents
- Holding a Title I meeting in the fall and spring of each school year to review the Title I program, parent involvement policy, and ask for suggestions for improvement.
- Providing parents with a short survey so they may provide feedback on the program both in a written and verbal format. These suggestions will be used to revise the Parent Involvement Policy, when appropriate
- Offering Parent/Teacher conferences in November and February with additional conferences upon parent request
- Making telephone calls/email correspondence between parents, teachers and school

Part II: Share Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

Marshall Public Schools will collaboratively create (with parents and teachers) a School/Parent/Student Compact. The compact will outline ways in which the parents, school staff, and students will work together to ensure high student academic achievement.

The compact will be reviewed and discussed during fall and winter Parent-Teacher conferences.

Marshall Public Schools have developed a School/Parent/Student Compact by;

- The Parent/Teacher/Student compact was developed by the school district leaders, parents, and teachers
- The compact is reviewed and given to all parents, teachers, and students serviced. (Beginning of the child's individual program throughout the year.) Teachers discuss how the compact relates to the success on each individual child. This ensures a strong home/school connection and allows all stakeholders to have a voice.
- Provide frequent reports to parents regarding their children's progress
- Marshall Public Schools will provide various academic reports to parents
- Reports cards (November, January, March, June)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (additional conferences available upon request)
- Progress Reports (October, December, February, and May)

Marshall Public Schools will afford parents reasonable access to staff and provide opportunities for parents to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's classroom.

Marshall Public Schools encourages parents to participate in the following activities:

- PCO (Parent Council Organization)
- Special Event Volunteers
- Chaperones for field trips
- Media Center helpers
- Classroom Observation Upon Request
- Classroom Volunteers

Marshall Public Schools will provide frequent reports to parents on their child's progress;

- Report cards: November, January, March, and June
- M-STEP results
- Phone calls/emails
- Parent/Teacher Conferences in November and February (or as needed)
- Home visits (as needed)

Marshall Public Schools will provide parents of participating Title I children, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Assessments used to measure academic progress include:

- Fountas and Pinnell (guided reading)
- MLPP (Literacy assessments and benchmarks)
- District (Eureka) Math standards
- STAR Reading
- Accelerated Reading
- District Writing assessments
- Local district assessments in Science and Social Studies

Part III: Building Capacity for Involvement

Marshall Public Schools will provide information and assistance to parents regarding the state and local academic standards and assessments;

To ensure that parents are informed about academic standards and assessments, Marshall Public Schools will provide the following:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences: November, February, and (other times conferences available upon request)
- Local assessment information (M-STEP, district benchmark assessments) shared with parents at conferences
- Students receiving additional assistance will be progress monitored on a biweekly basis depending on student need. Information will be shared with parents when appropriate.
- Literacy Interventionists will be available at conferences to provide information and answer questions about assessments

Marshall Public Schools will provide materials and training to parents:

- Kindergarten Orientation (incoming students and parents attend)
- Parent workshops (daycare provided)
- Take Home Book Program
- Provide lists of community resources to individual parents and assistance in accessing these resources, as needed
- Summer Reading Program at the Public Library
- Monthly school newsletter/Classroom newsletter/ District publications
- District Website Learning Tab - provides parents with materials and resources to help their child achieve success
- Volunteer situations
- Family Fun Nights
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Field Trips

Marshall Public Schools will educate teachers, Title I staff, and principals regarding the value of parent involvement, ways to communicate effectively with parents, and the implementation of parent programs.

- Marshall Public Schools values and respects parent involvement within the school community.
- Parent involvement will be part of the professional development plan. Staff will engage in P.D. and District provided P.D. to learn how to implement new ideas for effective parent communication. When situations occur that involve students or the welfare of the entire community, our parents are always the first point of contact. Our district allows teachers to utilize district websites to post classroom newsletters and materials and resources to the classroom pages.

Marshall Public Schools will coordinate parent involvement activities with other programs:

Marshall Public Schools will work to coordinate programs to ensure success for all:

- Kindergarten Orientation: activities to educate preschool parents, daycares, and community stakeholders on Kindergarten expectations.
- PCO
- Summer Library Program
- Building tours: New students and their parents invited to tour the buildings
- Intervention programs in grades K-5

Marshall Public Schools will inform parents of school and parent programs in a timely and practical format:

Marshall Public Schools will ensure that all parents are informed in a timely and user-friendly manner by utilizing:

- District websites updates
- E-mail reminders of upcoming events
- School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletter/District Newsletter all written in a language parents can understand
- Phone calls, home visits
- Weekly take-home folders

Marshall Public Schools will provide support for parental involvement at their request.

- Marshall Public Schools will make every effort to accommodate parent requests to ensure that students and parent individual needs are met in order to foster more positive parent involvement

Part IV: Accessibility

Marshall Public Schools will have parent involvement activities, accessible to all parents, including those with disabilities and parents who use English as their second language.

Marshall Public Schools will provide:

- Flexible meeting times
- Handicapped Accessible Facilities
- School Newsletter/Classroom Newsletter/District Newsletter all written in a language parents can understand
- Collaboration with community agencies;(i.e., Mobile Dentist; Community Mental Health)
- Home visits

- Transportation, assistance, (i.e., Dial-A-Ride)