

	MURFREESBORO CITY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY		
	Descriptor Term: PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT	Descriptor Number: IS 6	Date Adopted: 12/91
	Revision Adopted: 8/96; 7/01; 10/02; 5/02; 9/05; 9/10		

General Expectations

The Murfreesboro City Schools shall be governed by the statutory definition of parent involvement as cited in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and shall carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition.

The Board shall implement the following as required by federal and state legislation:

- Murfreesboro City Schools will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all its schools. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents.
- Murfreesboro City Schools shall incorporate activities and strategies that support this districtwide parent and family involvement policy into its Tennessee Comprehensive Systemwide Planning Process (TCSPP).
- The TCSPP shall include procedures by which parents may learn about the course of study for their children and have access to all learning materials.
- The TCSPP shall include strategies for parent participation in the system's schools which are designed to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, attendance and discipline.
- If the system's TCSPP is not satisfactory to the parents, the system shall submit any parent comments regarding the plan when the system submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- To the extent practicable, Murfreesboro City Schools shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Murfreesboro City Schools shall involve the Community Advisory Council that will annually assess, through consultation with parents, the effectiveness of the Family and Community Engagement Program and determine what action needs to be taken, if any, to increase parental and community participation. In order to accomplish this, each

advisory council shall be composed of representatives from parents of students in elementary schools, community business leaders, a member of the school board, and representatives from the school district.

- Murfreesboro City Schools shall ensure Title I schools are in compliance with the *ESEA* requirements for parental and family involvement.
- This policy shall be included in the MCS Policy Handbook for Parents which is distributed to parents/students annually.
- The system's comprehensive plan may be accessed on the system's website at www.cityschools.net.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parental involvement is essential if the school system and parents are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality education for all students. Therefore, parents may, among other activities:

1. Provide specific talents to complement and extend the instructional services of the classroom teacher,
2. Serve in advisory capacity for curriculum development projects,
3. Express ideas and concerns by responding to surveys and other information gathering devices,
4. Be actively involved in parent-teacher groups, and
5. Serve on citizen's advisory committees.

Title I and All Schools Involvement

The school system shall implement the Title I Program, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Parental input into the planning, design and implementation of the Title I Program, by sending out a parent survey at the end of the school year.
2. Meaningful consultation of parents of participating children in the planning, design, and implementation of the Title I Program. Conferences will be scheduled with parents twice a year.
3. Organized, systematic, ongoing, informed and timely consultation in relation to decisions about the program. This information is provided through the Title I newsletter and progress reports.
4. Activities and procedures for the involvement of parents that are of sufficient size, scope and quality to give reasonable promise of substantial progress toward achieving the required goals. Parent seminars and monthly planned activities may be offered.

To ensure that parents of children being served have an adequate opportunity to participate in planning, designing, and implementing the Title I Program, the system shall:

1. Convene an annual meeting to explain the programs and activities available under Title I to which all parents of participating children, including migrant students, Limited English Proficient students, and Headstart and Pre-K students must be invited.
2. Provide parents of participating children, including migrant students, Limited English Proficient students, Headstart, and Pre-K students with reports and explanations of their

- child's progress.
3. To the extent practical, conduct a parent/teacher conference with parents of each participating child to discuss the child's progress, placement, and methods the parents can use to complement the child's instruction.
 4. Make educational personnel under the Title I Program, including pupil services personnel, readily accessible to parents.
 5. Permit parents of participating children to observe Title I Program activities.
 6. Provide opportunities for regular meetings with parents to formulate parental input into the program if they desire.
 7. Provide parents of participating children with a copy of this Parental Involvement Policy as well as timely information about the program.
 8. Make parents aware of parental involvement requirements and other relevant provisions of the program.
 9. Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities parents may request.
 10. Coordinate, to the extent possible, parental activities with programs funded under other programs.
 11. To the extent practicable, provide information, programs, and activities for parents in a language and form that parents understand.
 12. Annually assess, through consultation with parents, the effectiveness of the parental involvement program and determine what action needs to be taken, if any, to increase parental participation.
 13. Utilize the school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student achievement and the means by which the school and the parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve according to high standards.

Legal Reference:

PL 107-110, *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*
T.C.A. 49-6-7001-7003, Parent Educational Participation Act
Tennessee State Board of Education Policy No. 4.207, Parent/Family Involvement