Policy 1012: Parent and Family Involvement

Education Committee
May 7, 2013
Agenda

• Review of what is required to be in our policy per NCLB
• Review Changes to the Parent Policy
• Review Parent Policy subcommittee timeline
  — Parent Engagement
  — Dissemination of the Policy
What is No Child Left Behind (NCLB*)?

• Education law signed by President Bush in January 2002.

• Goal is to improve student academic achievement and help increase the quality of teaching.

• One key component is parental involvement.

* NCLB is now referred to as ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act)
NCLB Definition of Parent Involvement

Parent involvement: the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;

- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;

- 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; and
District Parent Involvement Policy

Must include a description of:

• How parents will be involved in development of the Title I plan and in school review and improvement.

• The coordination and technical assistance provided by the district in developing effective parent involvement.

• How the District will build capacity for strong parent involvement.
District’s Areas of Responsibility for Parent Involvement

- Development of District’s Title I Plan
- District & School Parent Involvement Policy
- Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the District’s Parent Involvement Policy
- Reservation of Funds
- Parent Right to Know Requirements

See Section 1118 of No Child Left Behind
District Parent Involvement Policy

• How the District will coordinate parent involvement activities with other programs.

• How the District will conduct an annual evaluation of parent involvement policy.

• How the District will involve all parents in the activities of schools.

• How parents are involved in the training (professional development) of school staff.
In Pennsylvania, school district’s must submit a copy of their Parent Involvement Policy to Division of Federal Programs for review since 2005-06.

Must include a cover letter explaining how the policy was distributed to all parents.

Written notification of compliance/noncompliance is sent to all school districts.
Our school district believes that all schools (whether they are eligible for Title I funds or not) should meet the high parental involvement standards required by law of schools that receive Title I funds.

PPS has a district-level Parent and Family Involvement Policy that applies to all parents at all schools – and also meets the requirements of Section 1118.
Summary of Policy Changes

- PSCC role/responsibilities clarified
- Focus of policy is parent/family participation in education, as well as their child’s safety, health and welfare while at school
- Definitions section added
- District names, titles and department references brought up to date
Summary of Policy Changes

- Language revised for greater readability
- Redundant and outdated language removed
- Complaint procedure revised for consistency and added an extra layer of oversight at the District level with process used by Title Programs Office
- Language considered to be overly specific and/or subject to frequent change was made more general
- Policy revised for ease of reference to connecting language within the policy
Parent and Family Policy Timeline

- Parent Policy Committee Meetings with Parents, Staff and Law Department started in August 2012.
- Presented policy to the Excellence For All (EFA) Parent Steering Committee and the Family And Community Engagement (FACE) Coordinators on February 7, 2013.
- Policy shared at PSCC meetings in February & March, 2013.
- Parent Workshop held on March 21, 2013.
- Policy sent to Principals for comment April 2013.
- Policy posted on the website for public comment April 2013.
- Public comment available April 22 & May 28 public hearing.
- Approved Policy will be included in Back to School mailing.