

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT  
(Title I, Part A)**

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Knowing that Parental involvement is an important factor in a child's education, Bath County School Board recognizes the following programs, activities and procedures to involve parents within our three schools.

Parent/Teacher Organizations at all schools

- CFE (Citizens for Education), Millboro Elementary School
- PTO (Parent Teacher Organization), Valley Elementary School
- ABC (Achievement Boosters Club), Bath County High School
- Athletic Boosters Club, Bath County High School
- Band Boosters, Bath County High School

Parents serve on advisory committees which include but are not limited to the following areas. These committees provide recommendations to best serve the student population in Bath County.

Standing Committees:

- Title I PACs (Parental Advisory Committees)
- Special Education Advisory Committee
- Gifted Advisory Committee
- Technology Advisory Committee
- School Health Advisory Board (includes Family Life and Safe and Drug Free Schools)
- Career and Technical Advisory Committee
- Division Calendar Committee

Ad Hoc Committees:

- Division Mission and Goals
- Discipline
- Textbook Review
- Scholarship
- Prom and After Prom

Parents also have the opportunity to be a part of our students' growth and achievement by participating in the following activities.

- Volunteer groups that work in the schools assisting teachers and students.
- Very successful tutoring programs at both elementary schools are in place.

These programs are carried out with the assistance of parents and community volunteers.

- Family Reading Nights sponsored by Title I. These evenings address issues of Reading. Ideas are given to assist parents in helping their children work on and improve their reading skills at home.
- Celebrating Families workshops
- Parent volunteers can help with the organization and sponsorship of clubs. These clubs can be civic or academic!
- Assist with Reward parties for students to celebrate academic success!
- Help with the planning of activities to celebration the success of the teachers and support staff in Bath County.

The Bath County School Division strives to ensure that our parental involvement policies meet all state and federal requirements.

- All parents of Title I students will complete a yearly school-parent compact.
- Parents will have an opportunity to have oral or written input about the Bath County Parental Involvement Plan.
- Flexible meeting times will be available to ensure that all parents will have the opportunity to attend meetings.
- Parents will be given ideas, activities and suggestions that will help them work with their children at home.
- Parents will have opportunities to meet with teachers to discuss the progress of their children. Teachers will offer suggestions and ideas that may help with academic progress.
- Parent conferences, workshops and training programs, webinars will be made available to parents.

Bath County will provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children.

- Correspondence will be made available in languages that all parents can understand.
- Translators will be made available if necessary.
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for parents with disabilities to be included in school activities.

Parents will be given the opportunity to review the Bath County Parental Involvement Plan. These plans will be sent home for parents to review. Copies will also be placed in each school for review. Parents will be given the opportunity to submit comments in regard to this plan. All comments will be recorded at the Division level and may be forwarded to the State Department of Education.

The Title I Program will hold an annual meeting each fall, (flexible meeting times will be available) to discuss the program. Topics will be goals of our program, form completion, parental involvement, family reading nights, surveys and instruction. At this time, representatives for the Parent Advisory Committee will be chosen. The representatives will have input as to how parental involvement monies may be spent.

Parents will have ample opportunities to participate in regular, two-way communication with school staff in regard to their child's progress.

- Parents and teachers will discuss student's academic progress i.e. Parent-Teacher conferences, phone calls, home visits, teacher websites
- Parents will be given suggestions for ensured student success i.e. newsletters, websites, worksheets, books, "ENGRADE" etc.

Parents will be encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.

- School – Parent Compact
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Committee membership
- School sponsored workshops and conferences.
- Tutoring
- Helping classroom teachers

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Bath County Public Schools will involve parents in the development of its district wide parental involvement plan.

- Parents from all three schools will have an opportunity to be included in the development of this Parental Development Plan. This involvement may be oral or written.
- Discussions will be conducted during board meetings of the CFE, PTO and ABC organizations.
- Parents will have an opportunity to review the Parental Involvement plan and have their ideas included.
- PAC members will review and add their thoughts and ideas to our Parental Involvement Plan.

Bath County Public Schools will send all parents a copy of the newly developed Parental Involvement Plan. They will be encouraged to submit their ideas and thoughts concerning the development of this plan. Surveys will be sent to parents to get their input about Parental Involvement in Bath County Schools.

Bath County Public Schools will continue to have staff members attend conferences and workshops that will give new ideas that might be incorporated into our Parental Involvement activities. Staff members will continue to sponsor our Family Reading Nights. We will also encourage parents to attend workshops such as Celebrating Families. Our annual meetings will include discussions about Parental Involvement. We hope to get parents interested and excited about being a part of student achievement and performance.

Bath County Public Schools will continue to incorporate Reading First strategies into our Title I program as well as our primary classes. Bath County has a very strong Pre-School program based greatly on the strategy of Parental Involvement. We will continue with these strategies as we focus on Parental Involvement.

Bath County Public Schools Title I staff will conduct yearly surveys each Spring to identify the strengths and weaknesses of our Parental Involvement plan and make changes if necessary. Parents of Title I students will complete the yearly survey. We will also use the findings from the surveys to make changes in our Title I program as needed from year to year. Parents may make suggestions as to ways that the Title I program could better meet the expectations and needs of our students.

Bath County Public Schools will build the schools' and parent's capacity from 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.

A. Bath County Public Schools will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or schools, as appropriate, 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, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators

These areas will be addressed in the following ways:

- Meetings with teachers
- Parent and Teacher Workshops such as Celebrating Families
- Website review such as VA DOE released test items and SOL Pass
- State Report Cards for each school

- Newsletters and flyers from schools
  - Parent Handbooks
  - PTO/CFE meetings
  - IEP meetings
- B. The School District will, with the assistance of its schools, 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:
- Parent/Student Evening Computer Labs
  - Family Reading Night Activities
  - Reading Connection
  - PTO/CFE/ABC meetings with special speakers
- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools 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:
- School Division committees which include parents, teachers, administrators and community members.
  - PTO/CFE/ABC board meetings with teachers and administrators.
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- Parents come into the Head Start classroom for visits and assist teachers and students with activities.
  - Home Visits are made by our Head Start teacher.
  - Reading First strategies are used in classroom and Title I instruction. Teachers send home coordinating activities that build upon these pillars of instructions.
  - Pre-School sends home weekly packets for parents to complete with their children.
- E. The school district will 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 alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents should understand:

- Most often, information is sent home by students, however if there is reason to believe that parents are not receiving information in a timely fashion, phone calls may be made to remind parents of information that is coming home.
- Appointments may be made for parents and teachers to meet at school or elsewhere, if necessary, to go over and complete paperwork.
- Home visits if necessary
- School/teacher websites
- Monthly calendars sent home and posted on web pages.
- Monthly menus sent home and posted on web pages.

#### ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Title I Coordinator, Bath County Public Schools.

A copy of this policy regulation will be distributed to the parents of Title I students within one week of adoption and during the first month of school in successive school years.

Adopted:      October 25, 2007

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