

Anderson School District Two
Parental Involvement Policy

Anderson School District Two agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- The district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The carrying out of the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will 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 required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the schools.
- The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition in parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

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

- A) *that parents play an integral and meaningful role in assisting in their child's learning;*
- B) *that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child'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 of the ESEA.*

IMPLEMENTATION OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

1. Anderson School District Two will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan:

- Parents will review the policy with the Title I committee. Suggestions and/or concerns will be communicated to the director for possible revisions.
- The district policy will be reviewed at the annual District Title I Committee meeting.

2. Anderson School District Two will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- Spring recommendations and/or surveys for the proceeding project year, fall orientation recommendations and/or surveys for the succeeding project year, and additional opportunities throughout the school year during parent meetings will be provided.
- Updates and correspondence will contain a statement urging parents to make suggestions/recommendations for the program. The procedures for making these recommendations will be included.

3. Anderson School District Two will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- The district will provide relevant information which schools can use in providing parental support through a district website.
- The district will support a district parent resource room in each Title I school. All parents will have access to these resources.
- The district will provide coordination, technical assistance, and support for effective parent involvement through the services of a district-paid Family Service Director. Parenting concerns and needs will be addressed through workshops, parenting classes, home visits, and other methods that might be suggested from parental contacts.

4. Anderson School District Two will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

- Anderson School District Two will coordinate and integrate parent involvement under this program with parent involvement under the county's Head Start program, First Steps program, 21st Century Learning Center parent involvement component, and the parenting programs under the Parenting and Family Literacy Act. Parents with children participating in these programs will be encouraged to become involved in all parenting activities funded under Title One.

5. Anderson School District Two will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.) The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise if necessary (and with involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

- An annual evaluation of the parent involvement policy will be conducted in the spring of each year with parents on the Title I committee. The evaluations will include data/information from feedback provided by parents through written recommendations and/or surveys throughout the year.
- Anderson School District Two will use the findings from the evaluation completed at the annual meeting to design strategies for school improvement and suggest revisions, if necessary, for the school parental involvement policy. Additionally, the district will use findings from the school's annual needs assessment survey and/or recommendations from the School Improvement Council, along with the School Renewal Plan, to make any changes or additions to the policy.

Anderson School District Two will build the schools' and the parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the schools involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

- A. The district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children in the district in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The South Carolina Academic Content Standards,
 - The state's student achievement standards,
 - The South Carolina- State and Local Academic Assessments including alternate assessments,

- The requirements of Part A,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators.

This will be achieved by the following actions (as appropriate):

- Anderson School District Two will continue to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parent involvement through opportunities for parental contact such as open house, annual meetings, home visits (as deemed necessary), phone contacts, parent/teacher conference days, and ongoing and sustained parent workshops.
- The district will involve parents in the activities of the schools. Activities may include parent committees, conferences, mentoring, tutoring, volunteering, and assisting students at home.
- The district will support parent resource rooms which will be available to parents.
- Schools will make technology available to parents who need access to computers and printers to support student learning.
- Distribution of additional information on various topics via e-mail, district website, brochures, flyers, articles in the newspaper and work with local agencies that provide services to families will be used to support parent involvement.
- District leaders and teacher leaders may attend workshops related to parental involvement programs and strategies in order to disseminate information at the school and parent level.

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:

- Providing parent workshops at the school and district level that help parents support their child's education at home, give them the skills to monitor student progress online, provide access to materials to help parents work with their children on reading and math and other materials and training that may be identified throughout the year.

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:

- The district will make the Family Service Director available to schools to work with administrators and teachers and to discuss and review parent involvement programs and strategies.
- The district will request that schools inform educators and parents of the purpose and existence of the parent resource room at each school.

- The district may provide opportunities for administrators and teachers to attend parenting workshops/conferences to obtain additional information to disseminate and use at the school level.
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, 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.
- 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 can understand:
- The district and school will provide a calendar of events on district and school websites to keep parents informed of meetings and activities at the school and district level.
 - Schools will send home reminders and/or call through School Messenger to inform parents of upcoming events.
 - Translations, and alternate formats of parent communications will be provided, to the best extent possible if deemed necessary.

This policy was adopted by Anderson School District Two on July 1, 2015 and will be in effect for the period of 3 years. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before the first day of school.

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Parents, please provide your school administrator with input.