

Hamlin School District
Title One
Parent Involvement Policy
Revised January 31, 2007

The Hamlin School District recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire period the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school district to educate all students effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. A major goal of the Hamlin School District Title I Program is to encourage greater involvement of parents in the education of their children in partnership with Title I and their school. The following outline is in compliance with legal requirements (PL 100-297, Section 1016) and is in accordance with our philosophy... ***"To prepare and equip our students to become responsible citizens and succeed in an ever-changing world."*** We encourage parents to help us to meet the challenge of that philosophy as we jointly work with our students. Likewise, this statement represents input from parents and will be available to all parents of Title I children.

A. As school begins, a letter will be sent to all parents of children attending the Hamlin School District informing them that their child(ren) are considered Title I students since the Hamlin School District has a School-wide Title I Program. Information regarding the program, along with parenting tips to increase parent/child learning interactions, will be included with this letter.

B. Responsibilities of parents and suggestions for projected home-school partnerships will be presented through communication with parents throughout the year. The Parent Compact is given out during parent meetings and is also available with the Title I Director, or the Superintendent of the Hamlin School District.

Resources valuable for parents will be provided at a central site. These shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Books about reading with children and parenting techniques.
2. Pamphlets on "How to Help with School Work," etc.
3. Books and videos (as available).

The Hamlin School District's library is open to the public to encourage families to read together and to go to the library together, when available. All students throughout the building are highly encouraged to use the library facilities in order to check out books. The Accelerated Reader Program is used in the Kindergarten through 8th grade reading programs. Various forms of incentives are used to encourage students to read. Staff in grades 9 through 12 promotes the Hamlin Book Club program to encourage students to continue to read as a life-long skill.

C. Throughout the year, Title I staff in-services are conducted. A strand of these in-services will be directed toward more effectiveness in working with parents and toward building home-school partnerships. This will be a part of in-services as appropriate and applicable. This strand may include conferences beyond our local level, if available.

D. Each Title I school will provide opportunities to parents for ongoing consultation, evaluation and input toward achieving program goals and developing a feeling of partnership.

E. Communication with parents will include, but not be limited to, sharing of the South Dakota State Reading/Math Standards with parents. Each set of parents will receive a copy of their child's grade-level reading/math standards each year. In addition, parenting tip pages, notices, other mailings, phone calls and conferences will be ongoing.

F. In awareness of parents lacking literacy skills or where the native language is not English, provisions will be made as far as practical for translations of printed material or provisions of attending translators. General awareness as well as specific attention will be encouraged for coordination with programs under Adult Education Act. This commitment to family involvement will be approved by the Hamlin School District Board of Education and will be coordinated through Title I staff leadership. Direct participation and initiative is deemed a requirement of each Title I staff member.

For further information, contact the Hamlin School District Superintendent or Title I Director.