



Ware Public Schools District Wide Parental Involvement Plan

***NOTE:** In support of strengthening student academic achievement, each local educational agency (LEA or school district) that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy that contains information required by section 1118(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (district wide parental involvement policy). The policy establishes the LEA's expectations for parental involvement and describes how the LEA will implement a number of specific parental involvement activities, and is incorporated into the LEA's plan submitted to the State educational agency (SEA).*

School districts, in consultation with parents, may use the sample template below as a framework for the information to be included in their parental involvement policy. School districts are not required to follow this sample template or framework, but if they establish the district's expectations for parental involvement and include all of the components listed under "Description of How District Will Implement Required District wide Parental Involvement Policy Components" below, they will have incorporated the information that section 1118(a)(2) requires be in the district wide parental involvement policy. School districts, in consultation with parents, are encouraged to include other relevant and agreed upon activities and actions as well that will support effective parental involvement and strengthen student academic achievement.

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PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

[NOTE: Each district in its District-wide Parental Involvement Policy must establish the district's expectations for parental involvement. *[Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]* There is no required format for those written expectations.]

The **Ware Public School District** 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.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement plans 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 school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement plan into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out 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 Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 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 of 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 and ensuring—***

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting 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.**

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

[NOTE: The District Wide Parental Involvement Policy must include a description of how the district will implement or accomplish each of the following components. *[Section 1118(a)(2), ESEA.]* There is no required format for these descriptions, however, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy statutory requirements.]

1. The **Ware Public School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - Parents, families and community members will be notified by the Title I Office of the District Wide Parental Involvement Plan via the school website, at Title I PAC Meetings and at Title I Nights (6-9 Title I Family Nights per year).
 - Convene a committee of stakeholders to review, revise or update the parent involvement plan. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to: parents from the Title I PAC, parents from Title I schools, staff from Title I schools and district level staff.
 - A copy of the district parent involvement plan will be provided to parents of Title I students for comment and review. The district plan will be available at the Title I Annual Meeting, the Title I PAC Meetings, parent meetings/training sessions, Title I Parent Nights and other events when appropriate.

2. The **Ware Public School District** will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - The District will distribute MCAS and/or PARCC and/or Next Generation MCAS Parent/Guardian Reports to the parents/guardians of each student who took the exams. This will be done each September/October as soon as the Parent/Guardian Reports are received by the district.
 - The in-district assessments, such as Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) and DIBELS are discussed as part of a televised power-point presentation to the school committee.
 - The in-district assessments, such as Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), the Benchmark Assessment System and DIBELS are reviewed as part of the Title I Annual Meeting.

3. The **Ware Public School District** 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, school performance and to build parents capacity to work with their children.
 - Title I training activities and resources will be developed at the school level and will meet the needs of parents of children who attend the Title I School. Training activities and resources will be developed in coordination with other programs such as district and school professional development initiatives, literacy initiatives, math initiatives, ELL initiatives, school outreach programs, and/or family involvement events.
 - Title I staff will work with school level parent involvement committees (Title I PAC, literacy and/or math and /or Leadership Committees) to implement and coordinate parent involvement activities and training(s).
 - The Title I Department, the District and each school will provide information on its website to support parents, families, and community members and to keep all stakeholders informed on what is going on with Title I, the District and each school.
4. The **Ware Public School District** will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:
 - District staff will work collaboratively with other parental involvement agency activities (Head Start, Special Education, Pre-Kindergarten) to develop tools to assist in the transition to kindergarten.
 - Each Title I School in the district will hold parent, family, and community informational meetings.
5. The **Ware Public School District** 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 the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.
 - Title I staff will annually survey parents, staff and community members.
 - Title I staff will survey parents at each of the (6-9) Parent/Family Nights each year.
 - The Office of Accountability, Title I & Title IIA will analyze data received from surveys and adjust the District Wide Parent Involvement Plan as well as practices in each school. Survey results will be used to modify the policy as needed. Survey results are shared at subsequent Parent/Family Nights, PAC Meetings, Senior Leadership Team Meetings with District Administration and at each Title I school's Faculty PLC Meetings.
 - In April or May of each year, the Ware Public Schools Title I PAC will meet to review, evaluate, and revise our Parent Involvement Plan. During the review process, all parents are notified of the review through notices sent home with students and publicized on the school website. The notices make parents aware that the plan is under review, that a copy of the plan is available in the office of the Title I schools, or by visiting the school website, and that parents have the right to give input regarding the revision of the plan.
 - School level surveys/evaluations will be developed to evaluate the effectiveness of district and school parent involvement plans and will be conducted in the spring of the year.

- Survey/evaluation results will be shared with parent groups for review and will be used to revise the parent involvement plan.
 - Data from the evaluations will be used to design strategies for more effective parent involvement support to schools and/or for parents.
 - Ware Public Schools, to the extent practicable, provides opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency and parents with disabilities. We have a grades K–6 ELL Teacher who is available to assist in verbal communications with students and parents with limited English proficiency. Individual academic assessments, and the interpretation of those results, will be interpreted for parents in a language they can understand. Every effort is made to accommodate parents with disabilities.
6. The **Ware Public School District** will build the schools' and parent's capacity for 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. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, 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 Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators:
 - School district will provide parents, families, and community members with the District and Schools Report Card each year.
 - School district will provide parents and families with the results of students' annual state assessments, including alternate assessments each year.
 - School district will provide parents and families with multiple opportunities for conferencing with teachers (i.e. Student Assistance Team Meetings {SAT} and individually scheduled conferences.
- 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 and math training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:
- The Title I Department will host ongoing Parent/Family Events throughout the school year to provide parent, family, and community meetings/trainings including those on core content areas such as Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics.
 - The Title I Department will convene Title I PAC Meetings throughout the year on days and times that are convenient for parents and community members.
- 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, on the value and usefulness of the contributions of parents,

and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- The Title I Office, the District and each of the schools will utilize the Connect-Ed Calling System and the Ware Public Schools website to communicate with parents, families, community members, and stakeholders.
- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- Conducting Parent, family, and community informational meetings.
- 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:
- Survey at each school, in the enrollment packet, asking if the need exists to send information to the home in an alternate format or in a different language.

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PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

NOTE: The District wide Parental Involvement Plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

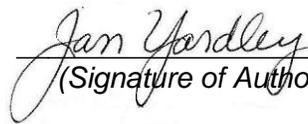
- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement; establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;

- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.]

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District-Wide Parental Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by this document.

This policy was adopted by the **Ware Public School District** on 04/12/2016 and will be in effect for the period of 2016-2017. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before October 30, 2016.



(Signature of Authorized Official)

04/12/2016

(Date)