



# Michigan Online School

## Title I School Wide Parent Involvement Policy

In accordance with the requirements of federal law, programs supported by Title I funds must be planned and implemented in meaningful collaboration with parents and family members of the students being served by Title I funds.

Each year the MOS team will work with parents and family members of students served in Title I Programs in order to develop and agree on a written parent and family engagement policy to establish expectations for the involvement of such parents and family members in the education of their students. This policy shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board and distributed to parents and family members of students receiving Title I services. This policy must establish the expectation and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and describe how Michigan Online School will:

- A. involve parents and family members in the development of Michigan Online School's Title I plans and any state-mandated comprehensive support and improvement plans;
- B. provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance,
- C. coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with other federal, state and local laws and programs;
- D. annually evaluate the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of schools, including:
  - 1. identifying barriers to parent participation, especially to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background;
  - 2. the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their students, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and

3. strategies to support successful school and family interactions.
- E. use the evaluation to:
    1. design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement; and
    2. revise the parent and family engagement policy.
  - F. involve parents in the activities at Michigan Online School, which may include establishing a parent advisory board that may be charged with developing, revising and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy;
  - G. provide information and opportunities for the participation of parents and family members
  - H. conduct meetings flexibly and assist parents to assure their attendance at meetings;
  - I. develop agendas for parent meetings that include review and explanation of curriculum, assessments, and proficiency level expectations;
  - J. provide opportunities for parents to make suggestions, interact and share experiences with other parents and participate in the decision-making about the Title I program;
  - K. involve parents in the planning, review and improvement of the Title I program;
  - L. communicate student's individual performance to parents;
  - M. assist parents in helping their students in achieving the objectives of the program
  - N. provide responses to parental questions, concerns and recommendations;
  - O. conduct other activities as appropriate to the Title I plan and state and federal requirements.

The Board will reserve the required amount of its Title I allocation to carry out the above activities. Parents and family members of students receiving Title I services will be involved in the decisions regarding how the funds are allotted for parent involvement activities. Funds will be used to carry out activities and strategies including at least one of the following:

- A. Providing professional development for Michigan Online School staff in parent and family engagement strategies

- B. Supporting programs that reach parents and family members
- C. Disseminating information on best practices focused on parent and family engagement
- D. Collaborating with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family engagement.
- E. Engaging in any other activities and strategies that the Board determines are appropriate and consistent with its parent and family engagement policy.

The Superintendent must also assure that Michigan Online School develops a specific written plan, with parental involvement and agreement, which includes the following:

- A. An annual meeting at a convenient time to which all parents of participating Title 1 students are invited and encouraged to attend to explain the parents' rights and Michigan Online School's obligation to develop a parent and family engagement policy.
- B. Meetings with parents of students receiving Title I services scheduled at flexible times with assistance such as child care, transportation, home visits, etc. offered to parents to encourage their involvement.
- C. Parents must be involved in the review and improvement of parent involvement activities
- D. Parents of participating students must be provided with:
  - 1. information about the Title I program and a copy of the parent and family engagement policy;
  - 2. a description and explanation of the curriculum and assessments used to measure student progress and the achievement levels expected;
  - 3. regular meetings to make suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their students
- E. If the written plan is not satisfactory to the parents, Michigan Online School must submit any parent comments to the Superintendent.
- F. Michigan Online School will develop a school-parent compact with parents of students served under Title I which outlines how the school staff, the parents and the students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the state's high standards. The compact must:
  - 1. describe the school's responsibility to provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive, effective learning environment;

2. describe the ways in which each parent is responsible for supporting their student's learning such as monitoring progress and attendance, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their student;
  3. address the importance of parent/teacher communication on an on-going basis through at least annual parent/teacher conferences to discuss the student's achievement and the compact; frequent progress reports to the parents on their student's progress; reasonable access to the staff and to observe and participate in classroom activities and regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.
- G. Parents of students receiving Title I services must be notified about their school's parent and family engagement policy.
- H. School-level parent and family engagement policies must be updated regularly to meet the changing needs of parents and Michigan Online School.

In order to involve parents in the education of their students, Michigan Online School must include in the parent and family engagement policy:

- A. Ways to assist parents of students served under Title I in understanding academic standards, state and school assessments, Title I and how to monitor their student's progress and how to work with educators to improve their student's achievement;
- B. provide literacy training from Title I funds
- C. pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities to enable parents to participate in school meetings and trainings, including transportation and child care costs;
- D. train parents to engage other parents;
- E. schedule school meetings and parent conferences at a variety of times, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation;
- F. adopt and implement model approaches to parent involvement;
- G. establish a parent advisory group to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I programs;
- H. develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities.