



L. O. Kimberly Elementary School

Office of Federal Grants and Program Compliance

Title I Parent Notification Documents

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Atlanta Public Schools Annual Title I Program Parent Information

****It is a required component of Parental Involvement Title I Part A to inform all constituents of the Title I School status.***

What does it mean to be a Title I School?

Title I is a federally funded program which provides services to schools based on student economic needs. Title I is the largest Federal Assistance Program for our nation's schools.

The goal is to provide a high-quality education for every child, so the program provides extra help to students who need it most.

Atlanta Public Schools District has (95) Title I Schools. Every Title I School has made Assurances that consist of the following components:

1. A comprehensive needs assessment of the school.
2. Proven methods and strategies for student learning, teaching, and school management based on scientific research and effective practices.
3. Instruction by highly qualified teachers (*Parents have the right to request information on the professional qualifications of their child's teacher and paraprofessionals providing services to their child.*) You may contact: **Mrs. Carolyn Hall, Principal at (404) 802-7600 or chall@atlanta.k12.ga.us**.
4. High quality, ongoing, professional development based on scientifically based research for teachers, principals, and paraprofessionals.
5. Strategies to attract high-quality, highly qualified teachers to high need schools.
6. Plans for assisting preschool pre-school children in the transition from early childhood programs to local elementary school programs.
7. Strategies to increase parental involvement, such as family literacy services.
8. Measures to include teachers in decision making regarding the use of academic assessments.
9. Activities to ensure that students having difficulty mastering the proficient or advanced levels of academic achievement standards shall be provided with effective, timely, additional assistance.
10. Activities to ensure that students having difficulty mastering the proficient or advanced levels of academic achievement standards shall be provided with effective, timely, additional assistance.
11. Coordination and integration of federal, state, and local services and programs.
12. **Programs made possible through Title I at L. O. Kimberly Elementary School include:**
 - Parent Liaison
 - Parent Resource Center
13. Instructional Programs including Instructional Coach, Wednesday After School Tutorial transportation, 2 class size reduction teachers, technology, and materials and supplies.

L. O. Kimberly Elementary School
Atlanta Public Schools

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

Your child attends L. O. Kimberly Elementary School which has been making progress in meeting our goals. Our school receives Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, Title I schools will now move from an NCLB Needs Improvement (NI) status based on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to a Reward, Priority, and Focus schools status based on definitions provided by the US Department of Education.

At **Kimberly Elementary School** we are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title I school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined by ESEA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact Mrs. Carolyn Hall, Principal at (404) 802-7600 or chall@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carolyn Hall, Principal



Title I

Parental Involvement Policy

What is a parental involvement policy?

A parental involvement policy is a description of how the LEA or the school will support the important role of parents in the education of their children.

What should be included in the district's parental involvement policy?

The district policy should describe the district-wide plan for involving parents in their children's education and in the Title I program. It should describe how all schools and parents will work together to help Title I students achieve the *standards of learning*. The district's policy must include the following requirements:

- How parents will be involved in determining what the school needs to do to help their children achieve the standards.
- How parents will be involved in developing the Title I plan at their school.
- How the district will help its Title I schools involve parents.
- How the district will coordinate the parental involvement activities of Title I and other programs such as Even Start and Head Start.
- An outline of the district's plan for reviewing and evaluating its policy each year.

What should be included in the school's parental involvement policy?

The school's written policy must describe the school's plan to:

- Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I, Part A guidelines.
- Offer a flexible number of meetings.
- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review and improvement of Title I, Part A programs.
- Provide parents timely information, school performance profiles, individual student assessment results, a description and explanation of the curriculum.
- Opportunities for regular meetings, timely responses to parent suggestions and compacts.

How is the parental involvement policy developed?

Each district and school is required to involve ALL parents in the process. However, the developmental and implementation processes will vary depending on the district and school.

How will the parental involvement policy be put into practice?

Schools are allowed to use Title I money to support parental involvement. For example, Title I funds can be used to provide childcare or transportation for parents to attend school functions. Funds can also be used to provide workshops that inform parents about what their children are learning, or to buy materials that parents can use to help their children with schoolwork.

Source: National PTA: National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs; An Implementation guide for School Communities, 2010.

Title I

School/Parent Compact



What is a compact? A compact is a written agreement of how school staff, students and parents will work together to help students achieve. Each school that receives Title I money must have a compact.

What is the purpose of a compact? The purpose of a compact is to list the specific duties of school staff, students, and parents in student learning. With a compact, everybody knows what everyone is to do. The compact also includes how the school staff and parents will communicate with each other.

How does the compact describe the responsibilities of schools and parents? The compact is based on the school's standards of learning. It is also like a plan of action that says what everyone will do to help students achieve the standards set for their grade level. For teachers, the compact says what they should do to teach the content standards. For example, a compact might say something such as:

- *Teachers will develop lesson plans that cover their grade level's content standards.*
- *For other school staff*, the compact says what they should do to support the teaching of the content standards and students' ability to learn.
- *The principal* will make sure that the school is safe and secure so that students can focus on learning, free of disturbance and fear.

For parents, the compact says what they could do to support their children's achievement of the standards. For example, a compact might say:

- Parents will provide the child a supportive environment in which to do their homework.
- Parents will review and discuss each report card with the child, then sign the card and return it to school.

For students, the compact says what the students themselves need to do in order to reach the standards.

- Students will attend school everyday or, students will complete and return homework assignments.

The compact also will describe how teachers and parents communicate with each other. For example, a compact might say:

- Teachers will schedule conferences and schedule times for parents to explain the reading content standards and what parents can do at home to support this learning.

Who is covered by the compact?

The compact covers all Title I students, parents, teachers and principals in a School-wide school, however, only those students served in a Targeted Assistance program school will complete the compact.

How might teachers use the compact?

Teachers could use the compact as a plan of action that tells them what to teach and what to do to help their students achieve the school's standards. It also tells them what support to expect from other school support staff and parents.

What are parents supposed to do with their copy of the compact?

Parents are to use their signed compact as a description of what they are to do to support their child's progress. They can also use it as a starting point for conferences and a tool to continuously assess how the school is doing in teaching the standards.

How is a compact developed?

The compact is developed in collaboration by the principal, teacher, student and parent.

How does the Title I program use standards?

Any school that receives Title I money must use the same standards for all students, both those served by Title I programs and all others in the school. This means that Title I programs must be designed to give students the help they need to reach the same high standards that are set for everyone else.

What is a school profile?

A school profile is a report card on the school. It gives some basic facts about the school and the students. It also tells how each child is performing and what the school is doing to achieve high standards for all children.

What is the best way to handle parental involvement?

Research indicates that what seems to work best is for parents to be involved in several different roles over time. Joyce Epstein lists six categories of parental involvement; they are:

- Parenting
- Communications
- Parent Volunteering
- Learning at Home
- Decision-making and Governance
- Collaboration and Exchanges in the Community

What is needed for a successful school-family community partnership program?

The National Network of Partnership Schools reported research that indicates five ingredients that are important for a successful partnership program.

These elements are an active and supportive action team for school, family and community partnerships, adequate funding, time, guidance, and leadership.

Source: National PTA: National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs; An Implementation guide for School Communities, 2010.