

PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

POLICY

Valley Stream Union Free School District #24 is committed to the involvement of parents/guardians and families in students' education as full partners in educational growth and success. This policy assures that the District's Mission is met and that the District is in compliance with the Federal *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) and its reauthorization in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

It is the responsibility of the school officials and teachers to work in a cooperative nature with the parents/guardians of individual students. Parents/guardians and families should actively participate in their child's educational experience by engaging in positive communication with District teachers and administrators, becoming familiar with school policies and procedures, supporting the District's Code of Conduct and providing an atmosphere in the home that is conducive to learning and study.

In addition to the above, the District will work with parents of students receiving Title I services to establish a policy for parent involvement in Title I programs in accordance with Section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by NCLB and ESSA. The school/parent policies will include how the school will: (a) involve parents and family members in the joint development of the plan pursuant to ESEA section 1112, and the process of school review and improvement pursuant to ESEA section 1116; (b) provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the school in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement; (c) build the schools', parent's and family's capacity for strong parent involvement; (d) coordinate and integrate parent and family involvement strategies

included in other programs, such as Head Start, Even Start, the Parents as Teachers Program, the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-run preschool programs; (e) conduct, with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family involvement policy; and (f) use the findings of the annual evaluations in designing strategies for school improvement and revising the parent and family involvement policy; and (g) involve parents in the activities of the schools.

Complaint Procedure

The Board of Education recognizes the right of parents to register complaints when the parents believe that Title I (Parental and Family Involvement) is being violated.

All complaints must be made to the principal of the school the child attends within 30 calendar days after the events giving rise to the complaint. The District may provide an extension of this time limit for filing a complaint if exceptional circumstances exist. The complaint must be in writing and signed by the complainant. It should include a statement that the District has violated a requirement of Title I, including the facts upon which the complaint is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated. The principal will promptly investigate the complaint. Within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the complaint, the principal will make a finding in writing whether there has been a violation. In the event the principal finds that there has been a violation, he/she will propose a resolution of the complaint.

If the parent is not satisfied with the finding of the principal, or with the proposed resolution of the complaint, the parent may, within 15 calendar days after he/she has received the report of the principal, file a written request for review by the

Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent will review the file and, within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request for review, will make a finding in writing with his/her determination.

If the parent is not satisfied with the determination of the Superintendent, or with the proposed resolution of the complaint, the parent may, within 15 calendar days after he/she has received the report of the Superintendent, file a written request for review by the Board of Education. The Board of Education will review the file and, within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the request for review, make a finding in writing with its determination.

If the parent is not satisfied with the final determination made by the Board of Education, the parent may request that the U.S. Secretary of Education review the final determination.

The District will distribute, free of charge, adequate information about the complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Adopted: December 16, 2004
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