District Parent Involvement Policy

Armour 21-1

PART 1:

The Armour 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 1 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 policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, and a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
* The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
* In carrying out the Title 1, 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 1, 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 State Department of Education.
* The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title 1, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title 1, 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 1 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 ensurin*g-

*(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. HOW WILL ARMOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPLEMENT THE REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENETS**

1. The Armour 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:

Original committee to draft Policy was made up of parents, teachers, administrators and community members. Each year, a like committee that assists in the development of the Consolidated Application, meets in the Spring to evaluate the year’s program and progress towards the goals. The results of the annual parents survey are considered and suggested changes or concerns are discussed. Goals for the upcoming school year are then set.

1. The Armour School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

As mentioned each year a parent survey is sent and results tabulated. This gives us a good idea of some concerns of parents and things they think we could improve on. Assessment results are published and distributed. There are several chances for parents to discuss the Assessment results and ask any questions about their meaning. This usually happens first at our PTT group monthly meetings, which have Title concerns on the Agenda.

1. The Armour School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title 1, Part A Schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

The Elementary and Middle schools are in the same building and the staff is in close contact with each other. Some staff even overlap. Staff members work together to develop parental involvement activities such as Family Night, Math Night, Reading and Literacy Night, and all work together with parents in putting on our regional Praire Readers competition. We also use and share many take-home learning games and activities that students and their families can do together.

1. The Armour School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs by:

All staff and parents of students in SPED, 21st CCLC, and Pre-School programs are invited to all planning and strategy sessions that the Districts puts on in conjunction with its schools. Since we are a small school, the staff and parents of students in both schools overlap and coordinating such programs are not difficult.

1. The Armour 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 1, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parent 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.

A committee consisting of representation of all stakeholders, meets twice a year to evaluate the Title program. One such meeting is the annual meeting in the fall, and the Consolidated Application and year end review and planning meeting in the Spring. Parent involvement is one of the things discussed and any suggestions for change to better accommodate parents to allow involvement are considered and acted on. Parents of all socio-economic levels are represented. We have furnished child care at the meeting site for parents who could not afford it or who would otherwise not attend. We also choose our times with regard to other activities in the community and times for working parents.

6. The Armour 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 activities specifically described below:

A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title 1, 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

This begins every year with our annual Open House. We set out school and state report cards and assessment(if available) with staff manning the booth to answer questions. The director of our ESA has come several times to answer parent questions. Parents are also urged to contact administration or their child’s teacher if there are any questions on the State Assessment Reports. When individual student score become available, they are sent to the parents with explanations and contact information should they require additional help to decipher the meaning of their students’ scores. This help can come at our monthly PTT meetings, Parent-Teacher conferences, or by appointment. The State’s content standards for each class taught can be accessed by a link to the States’ Content Standards on the Armour School website. Students are also given the standards they are to master and urged to know what they need to master and share with their parents. Parents have access to the Parent Portal to track their students’ progress. Parents may also log in to Renaissance Place, where they can track their student’s progress on Math and Reading work that their students use to help improve their math and reading skills. Special family nights such as Math night and Reading and Literacy night provide more opportunities for parents to be involved and monitor their child’s progress as well as working together with educators to benefit student learning. PTT meeting provide information and opportunites for parents to work with educators in their child’s education.

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 training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

We annually provide materials and training at such functions as our PTT meetings, our Family Math night program, our Family Reading and Literacy program, our Praire Readers practice sessions and competition. We aid parents in the use of the Parent Portal and encourage parents and community members to use our DDN system if there is programming of interest to them. Our 21st CCLC and Pre-school programs also have many activities that can aid parents in working with their children. We provide several online and take-home materials that parents can use with their children to promote better academic achievement.

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, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

Professional Development on the value of and methods of involving parents in their child’s education are held yearly. With our recent push to utilize PBL, community and parent involvement in problem solving and projects, is more crucial than ever. We have set up networks and ways that students doing projects and parents or community members with expertise in these areas can collaborate. Our PTT meetings address this also, as well as Parent-Teacher conferences and our Annual Survey and monthly newsletter try to give recognition of the importance of parent involvement in their child’s school.

D. 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:

Many forms of communication are utilized to make sure the information gets to its intended target. We will send sensitive information by mail. We have survey annually that asks parents how they would like to receive information from their school. We use the School Website in many instances since a vast majority of our parents have indicated they have access. In conjunction with that, we use email for parents that have indicated they prefer to receive their information in that manner. We send monthly newsletters with school schedules and information on what is happening at school and in the classrooms. We try very hard to choose our language as to be understandable by people not in the education community. We try to avoid educational “jargon” and state things simply and in common sense terms. We do not have any students or families enrolled that are LEP and so language is not a barrier.

**PART IV. ADOPTION**

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title 1, Part A programs, as evidenced by \_\_information and Committee listed in the Consolidated Application\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This policy was adopted by the Armour School District on mm/dd/yy and will be in effect for the period of\_(until changed)\_\_\_\_\_\_. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title 1, Part A children on or before \_\_30 school days have passed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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Burnell Glanzer, Supt.

Date