

## **Title I Parent Involvement Policy 2015-2016 New Mexico School for the Arts**

### **Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program**

To involve parents in the Title I program at New Mexico School for the Arts, the following practices have been established:

- The school convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about the Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program. This meeting occurs as part of Back to School Night evening meeting in September each school year. Parents receive a brochure summarizing the Title I program and Title I Parent Involvement policy of New Mexico School for the Arts.
- The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents. Parents who cannot attend the Back to School Night may attend parent-teacher conferences, which are scheduled at flexible times from morning through late afternoon.
- The school involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs and the Title I Parent Involvement Policy. This involvement is achieved through our Site Council. Each fall, parents are invited through Site Council to provide feedback and help improve the school's Title I programs, Parent Involvement Policy, and School-Parent Compact.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs. This is accomplished through the distribution of the Parent Involvement Policy summary brochure, the school website, fliers posted at the school, parent-teacher conferences, Next Step Planning conferences, frequent reports on student progress, PowerSchool, and the school newsletter.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. This is accomplished through the Back to School Night evening meeting, Bright Arrow communications sent electronically, the school newsletter, parent-teacher conferences, Next Step Planning conferences, frequent reports on student progress, PowerSchool, and student assessment results mailed home to parents.
- If requested by parents of Title I students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. Meetings may be requested by parents with any teacher, or with the Title I Coordinator/Assistant Principal or the Head of School.

### **School-Parent Compact**

New Mexico School for the Arts distributes to parents of Title I students a school-parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic

achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the state's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities.

The School-Parent Compact was developed with parent input. The policy is distributed to all parents electronically. Printed copies are readily available at the front office and posted on school bulletin boards.

### **Building Capacity for Involvement**

New Mexico School for the Arts engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices.

- The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the state's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children. This is done through the Back to School Night evening meeting, Bright Arrow communications sent electronically, the school newsletter, parent-teacher conferences, Next Step Planning conferences, frequent reports on student progress, PowerSchool, and student assessment results mailed home to parents.
- The school provides Title I parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement. This is done through PowerSchool training at the Back to School Night evening meeting and through Next Step Planning meetings.
- With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and in how to work with parents as equal partners. Parent feedback is solicited through Site Council. Successfully involving parents in their children's education is a part of the professional development conducted through faculty meetings.
- The school coordinates and integrates the Title I parent involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. This is done through the Back to School night evening meeting, parent-teacher conferences, Next Step Planning meetings,

PowerSchool training, Site Council, the parent association, and parent involvement in arts performances and exhibitions.

- The School distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand. This is done through communication with the parent association, Bright Arrow and IContact electronic communications, and print communications at the front office and throughout the school. Spanish-speaking faculty and administrators are available to translate for Spanish-speaking parents.
- The school provides support for parental activities requested by Title I parents. Parents may request this support from the Title I Coordinator/Assistant Principal or from the Head of School.

### **Accessibility**

New Mexico School for the Arts provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand. This is done through communication with the parent association, Bright Arrow and IContact electronic communications, and print communications at the front office and throughout the school. Spanish-speaking faculty and administrators are available to translate for Spanish-speaking parents. The school is wheelchair-accessible.