

**Linden Public Schools
Federal Programs
Title I Program**

**Family and Community Engagement:
School-Based Parent Involvement Policy**

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.
-Jane D. Hull

The Linden Public Schools firmly believe that a partnership amongst home and school is essential for student success. **JOSEPH E. SOEHL MIDDLE SCHOOL** agrees to adopt and implement the following statutory requirements of the Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) as its Title I School-Based Parent Involvement Policy:

I. MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

- Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all Title I programs. Programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will work with all stakeholders to ensure the required school-level parental involvement policy meets Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a School-Parent Compact.
- Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will incorporate this school-based parental involvement policy into its school plan.
- In carrying out Title I parental involvement requirements, Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents. This includes parents of children with children of limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. The school will provide information and reports to parents in an understandable and uniform format.
- Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will involve parents of children served in Title I in decisions about how Title I funds reserved for parental involvement are spent.
- Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I 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 ensuring—

(A) That parents play a critical 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.

II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS:

1. Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school-based parent involvement policy under section 1112 of the ESEA:

- *During the annual Title I parent meeting, parents will assist in the development, or revision, and implementation of the school-based parent involvement policy.*
- *Parents will be surveyed to provide suggestions for increased parent involvement and ideas on parent activities.*
- *Consult with the Title I Parent Advisory Committee.*

2. Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

- *School goals, assessment and achievement data will be shared with parents.*
- *The school will invite parent representatives to participate on the review and improvement committee.*
- *Parents will be surveyed to provide input on school review and improvement.*

3. Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist staff in building the capacity for strong parent involvement to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

- *School administration and staff will work along with the district’s Federal Programs staff to enhance the coordination of activities and use of resources to improve student achievement and school performance.*

III. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MIDDLE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL-BASED PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will build the school and parents' capacity for strong parent involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

1. Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- New Jersey academic standards,
- New Jersey state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators

IV. THE HOME SCHOOL COMPACT

A school receiving funds under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must develop a written Home-School compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title I, Part A activities, services, and programs. That compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents under section 1118(b) of the ESEA. The compact must outline how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

School Responsibilities

Joseph E. Soehl Middle School will:

■ Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.

■ Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.

■ Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress.

■ Provide parents reasonable access to staff.

■ Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

■ See that my child is punctual and attends school regularly.

■ Making sure that homework is completed.

■ Monitoring amount of television my child watches.

■ Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.

■ Provide a library card for my child.

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, we will:

■ Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.

■ Come to school each day with all supplies needed for learning.

■ Practice good citizenship, show respect for myself, my school and other students.

■ Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.

V. ADOPTION

This School-Based Parent Involvement Policy has been developed and agreed upon by all stakeholders participating in the Title I, Part A Program.

Adopted: September 6, 2012

Revisions: N/A

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