GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The board is committed to increasing and ensuring the involvement of parents and other family members in the education of students.

The board shall implement the following as required by federal or state laws or regulations:

- The Lakeland School System shall annually work with parents in evaluating and potentially revising the provisions of this policy in improving the quality of schools. Such an evaluation shall strive to identify any barriers to greater participation by parents (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).

- The Lakeland School System shall provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other necessary support to assist individual schools with planning and implementing parental involvement activities.

- The Lakeland School System shall involve parents with the development of required educational or improvement plans.

- The Lakeland School System shall coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with those associated with other federal or state programs.

- The Lakeland School System shall put into operation activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents.

- The Lakeland School System shall ensure that activities and strategies are implemented to support this policy and included in the district plan.

- The Lakeland School System improvement plan shall include strategies for parental participation in the district's schools which are designed to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, attendance, discipline and higher education opportunities for students.

- The Lakeland School System plan shall include procedures to enable parents to learn about the course of study of their children and have access to all learning materials.

- The Lakeland School System plan shall identify opportunities for parents to participate in and support classroom instruction in the school. Such opportunities include, but are not limited to, organizing fundraising activities, volunteering as a field trip chaperone, assisting in the library, computer lab, or on the playground, offering after-school clubs, and recycling clothes.

- If the Lakeland School System’s plan is not satisfactory to parents, the Lakeland School System shall submit parental comments regarding the plan to the State Department of Education as required.
• The Lakeland School System shall ensure Title I schools are in compliance with the *Every Student Succeeds Act.*

The superintendent shall develop and implement any procedures necessary to accomplish the goals of this policy.

**SCHOOL LEVEL POLICY**

Each school shall submit to the superintendent and board, for review and comment, its Title I school parent involvement policy, which must meet state and federal requirements, including a school-parent compact. This school level policy shall be developed jointly with and distributed to parents of participating students. A copy of these documents shall be retained in the board central office and made available on the school's (if applicable) and school system's website.

**SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM**

If the Title I allocation is $500,000 or more to the school system, then not less than one per cent (1%) nor more than five percent (5%) of that allocation shall be reserved for the purpose of promoting parent involvement. Parents of students participating in the Title I programs shall be consulted on the use of these funds.

**FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS**

Families and community members should be engaged in the education of students based on the following standards:

• Families are welcomed into the school community;

• Families and school staff should engage in regular and meaningful communication about student learning;

• Families and school staff work together to support student learning and development;

• Families are informed and encouraged to be advocates for students;

• Families are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families; and

• Community, civic, and business resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.

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**Legal References**

1. No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title 1, Part A, Sect. 1118; TCA 49-6-7001; State Board of Education, Tennessee Parent/Family Involvement Policy 4.207; TCA 49-2-305
2. TCA 49-6-7001