

## **Mt. Kisco Elementary School Title I Parental Involvement Policy**

The Board of Education recognizes the integral importance of parental involvement in the educational process and accepts its responsibility to ensure compliance with federal Title I regulations. The Board, therefore, directs the administration to coordinate with Mt. Kisco Elementary School parents in the development, implementation, review and evaluation of a plan that provides for meaningful parental involvement. To ensure meaningful involvement in accordance with NCLB requirements, the district will:

- involve MKES parents in the activities of the Mt. Kisco Elementary School;
- provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist in planning and implementation of effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance; and
- conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy for improving the academic quality of Mt. Kisco Elementary School, including the identification of barriers to greater participation by parents in activities under the policy, and revision of parent involvement policies necessary for more effective parental involvement.

In addition, should Mt. Kisco Elementary School be designated as a school in need of improvement and/or restructuring by NCLB standards, the district will ensure that:

- parents would be involved and consulted in the process of school review and improvement. To facilitate this, the district will provide guidance for parents to become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the Mt. Kisco Elementary School to be identified as a school in need of improvement. Parents will be included in the development of a school improvement plan, as well as plan strategies that promote effective parental involvement;
- parents would be provided with adequate opportunity to participate in the development of a restructuring plan if the Mt. Kisco Elementary School is identified for restructuring, and to comment before the district implements an alternative governance arrangement. To the extent practicable, the district through its Title I program at MKES will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. Activities in this area include providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

Additionally, the Board directs that Mt. Kisco Elementary School Title I funds must be jointly developed with, and distributed to, parents of participating children as written in the parental involvement policy. The policy must be agreed on by such parents and describe the means for carrying out NCLB parental involvement requirements described in Implementation Plan, Review and Evaluation.

The MKES Title I school must notify parents of its parent involvement policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. In addition, the Title I school must make their parent involvement policy available to the local community and update it periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. To this end an executive summary will be developed.

### **MKES Implementation Plan, Review and Evaluation**

To ensure effective involvement by parents and to support a partnership among Mt. Kisco Elementary School, parents, and the community for improving student academic achievement, the Targeted Assistance Title I program at MKES will:

- assist parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic content and student achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, in areas such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
- educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of parent contributions, and in how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

The Bedford Central School District Parent Involvement Policy for the Title I program at Mt. Kisco Elementary School will ensure compliance with the following criteria:

- convene and invite all parents to an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to inform the community of Mt.Kisco's participation in the Title I program and explain Title I requirements and the right of parents to be involved;
- offer a flexible number of meetings;
- involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I policy and programs;
- if requested by parents, provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

In building communication with parents, the MKES maintains a student academic achievement school-parent compact describing the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction. This will enable the children served under the Title I program at Mt. Kisco Elementary School to meet the state's student academic achievement standards. The compact outlines:

- the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time;
- the importance of communication between Mt. Kisco Elementary School teachers and parents through:
  1. parents attending two parent – teacher conferences that include a discussion of how the student-parent compact relates to the individual child's achievement;
  2. MKES providing frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and
  3. providing reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observe classroom activities.