

Title I

Family Engagement Plan

2015-2016

Bemidji School District #31
Title I Family Engagement Plan
2015-2016

District Mission Statement:

Our mission is to empower each learner to succeed in our diverse and changing world.

We are committed to creating an environment where...

- Each learner will be challenged to develop to his/her full potential.
- Basic knowledge, skills and attitude are necessary for success.
- Learning is a life-long process that enriches our lives.
- **Education is a partnership with family and community.**
- Each person will show sensitivity and respect for self and others.
- There are expectations of quality for ourselves and for others.

Part I. District Expectations:

District must establish the district's expectations for parent involvement.

Bemidji School District agrees to implement the following requirements:

- Bemidji School District will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Bemidji School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level family engagement plan meets the Title I requirements, and includes, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- Bemidji School District will incorporate this district-wide family engagement plan into its district plan.
- In carrying out the Title I parent involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, Bemidji School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the Bemidji School District plan for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when it submits the plan to Minnesota Department of Education.
- Bemidji School District will involve the parents of children served in Title I schools in decisions about how the one percent of Title I 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.

Part II. District Family Engagement Plan Required Components:

1. Bemidji School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district/school Family Engagement Plan:

- a. How will parents be included in writing the Family Engagement Plan?

Activity	Date	Contact Person
District Title I Parent Advisory Council Meetings (posted on district web page: www.bemidji.k12.mn.us)	April 29, 2015 Plan Revision	Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services (218) 333-3100, ext. 31103
	June 1, 2015 Finalize Plan Revision & Parent Signatures	

2. Bemidji School District will involve parents in the process of district and school plan, review and improvement:

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Inform parents of school report card & parents' right to know teacher qualifications in the Fall District Title I Newsletter	Fall 2015	Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services
Notify the parents if their child's school has been identified as needs improvement	By October 1, 2015	School Principal
Identify students who qualify for Title I services	Fall 2015	School Title I Teachers
Involve parents of students in the identified sub-groups as part of the school support team	Fall 2015	School Principal & Title I Teachers
Conduct staff development for implementing effective strategies for parental involvement- at School Staff Meetings	Before Fall Parent Conferences, October 29-30, 2015	School Principal

3. Bemidji School District will involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review and improvement of the school Family Engagement Plan.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Title I School Parent Meetings	By April 29, 2015 Plan Revision	School Principal & Title I Teachers
	By June 1, 2015 Finalize Plan Revision & Parent Signature	

4. Bemidji School District will offer a number of flexible meeting options, such as meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.
5. Bemidji School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Support & Input from the District Parent Advisory Council	2015-2016 School Year	Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services
Resources for Kindergarten Packets to support early reading and math skills for all elementary schools	By Fall 2015 Orientation, September 1, 2015	

6. Bemidji School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental 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 activities specifically described below.
7. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
8. Bemidji School District will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide support to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following.
 - 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 Title I,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Title I School Family Involvement Meetings & Activities	See School Calendars for Family Involvement Activities	School Principal, Title I Teachers & Classroom Teachers
Parent Conferences	October 29-30, 2015 March 3-4, 2016	

Activity	Date	Contact Person
School & District Web Pages	Updated throughout the school year	Jacque Pearce, District Title I Assistant
Online Family Access	Throughout the school year	Tony Andrews, District Technology Coordinator

9. Bemidji School District will provide parents of participating children, if requested by parents, 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 practically possible.

10. Bemidji School District will, with the assistance of its Title I 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.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Family Involvement Activities, School Newsletters, Homework Help	2015-2016 School Year	School Principals, Title I Teachers & Classroom Teachers
Resources for Kindergarten Packets to support early reading and math skills for all elementary schools	By Fall 2015 Orientation, September 1, 2015	Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services

11. Bemidji School District will, with the assistance of its Title I 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.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Leadership Team Meetings	2015-2016 School Year	Dr. James Hess, Superintendent of Schools & Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services
Staff Meetings	2015-2016 School Year	School Principals

12. Bemidji School District will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
Pre-School Transition Team Meetings	2015-2016 School Year	Sandy Eberhart, Community Education Coordinator Stephanie Hubbard, Special Education Director Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services Elementary School Principals
Staff Meetings	2015-2016 School Year	School Principals

13. Bemidji School District will take the following actions to ensure that Title I 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.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
School Family Engagement Activity Notices & Newsletters	2015-2016 School Year	School Principals, Title I Teachers, Classroom Teachers & School Secretaries

14. Bemidji School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Head Start, School Readiness, K-1 Program, Early Childhood Family Education, Early Intervention Center, public preschool programs, and other organizations and programs with similar interests in supporting families as partners in their children’s education.
15. Bemidji 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 plan in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (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 school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement plan.

Activity	Date	Contact Person
School Annual Survey of Family Engagement Activities	By end of each school year	Title I Teachers
District-wide Parent Survey, planned with District Title I Parent Advisory Council	Every three years Next survey 2017-2018	Kathy Palm, Director of Curriculum & Administrative Services

Part III. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement:

As a component of the school-level parental involvement plan, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

- Conduct a parent/teacher conference in elementary schools, annually (at a minimum), during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child’s achievement;
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their children’s progress; and
- Provide parents with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child’s class and observation of classroom activities.

Part IV. Discretionary District Family Engagement Plan Components:

The Bemidji School District Family Engagement Plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents’ capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children’s academic achievement, such as the following activities:

- Establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.

Part V. Accessibility:

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part Bemidji School District to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of children with limited English proficiency, parents of children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Part VI. Adoption:

The Bemidji School District Family Engagement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes and sign-in sheets.

On June 1, 2015, Bemidji School District Family Engagement Plan will be in effect for the period of 2015-2016 school year.



The Bemidji School District will make this plan available to all parents of participating Title I children on or before September 1, 2015 in print form and on the district web page:

<http://www.bemidji.k12.mn.us/curriculum/title-one/>


Signature of Title I Authorized Representative

June 1, 2015
Date

Parents were involved with the development of Bemidji School District Family Engagement Plan:

Parent	School	Signature
Angie Berg	J. W. Smith	
Alisa VanDyke	Solway	
Jennifer Verdugo	Lincoln	