

INSTRUCTION

Parent Involvement

The San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parental involvement in the education of children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians and family members in the development of meaningful opportunities for them to be involved in SJCOE and school activities at all grade levels; advisory, decision-making, and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

The SJCOE's local control and accountability plan shall include goals and strategies for parent/guardian involvement, including SJCOE efforts to seek parent/guardian input in SJCOE and school site decision making and to promote parent/guardian participation in programs for English learners, foster youth, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and students with disabilities.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate the effectiveness of SJCOE's parent/guardian and family involvement efforts, including, but not limited to, input from parents/guardians, family members, and school staff on the adequacy of involvement opportunities and on barriers that may inhibit participation.

Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members in establishing SJCOE expectations and objectives for meaningful parent/guardian and family involvement in schools supported by Title I funding, developing strategies that describe how SJCOE will carry out each activity listed in 20 USC 6318, as contained in the accompanying administrative regulation, and implementing and evaluating such programs, activities, and procedures. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct outreach to all parents/guardians and family members.

When the SJCOE's Title I, Part A allocation exceeds the amount specified in 20 USC 6318, the Superintendent shall reserve at least one percent of the funding to implement parent/guardian and family involvement activities. The Superintendent or designee shall involve parents/guardians and family members of participating students in decisions regarding how the SJCOE's Title I funds will be allotted for parent/guardian and family involvement activities and shall ensure that priority is given to schools in high poverty areas in accordance with law.

Expenditures of such funds shall be consistent with the activities specified in this policy and shall include at least one of the following:

1. Support for schools and nonprofit organizations in providing professional development for SJCOE and school staff regarding parent/guardian and family involvement strategies, which may be provided jointly to teachers, principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, paraprofessionals, early childhood educators, and parents/guardians and family members.
2. Support for programs that reach parents/guardians and family members at home, in the community, and at school.
3. Dissemination of information on best practices focused on parent/guardian and family involvement, especially best practices for increasing the involvement of economically disadvantaged parents/guardians and family members.
4. Collaboration with community-based or other organizations or employers with a record of success in improving and increasing parent and family involvement.
5. Any other activities and strategies that SJCOE determines are appropriate and consistent with this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent/guardian and family involvement policy in accordance with 20 USC 6318.

Non-Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how SJCOE and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11504.

cf: 0420 School Plans/Site Councils
0460 Local Control and Accountability Plan
1220 Citizen Advisory Committees
1230 School-Connected Organizations
1240 Volunteer Assistance
1250 Visitors/Outsiders
3100 Budget
6171 Title 1 : Court and Community School/Day Center Programs

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

11500-11506 Programs to encourage parent involvement

48985 Notices in languages other than English

51101 Parent rights and responsibilities

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

54444.1-54444.2 Parent advisory councils, services to migrant children

56190-56194 Community advisory committee, special education

64001 Single plan for student achievement

LABOR CODE

230.8 Time off to visit child's school

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

18275 Child care and development programs, parent involvement and education

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6311 State plan

6312 Local educational agency plan

6314 Schoolwide programs

6318 Parent and family engagement

6631 Teacher and school leader incentive program, purposes and definitions

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services

35.160 Communications

(10/17)