

Title I Mandates Made Easy

Input on professional development *Each LEA and school may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators.*

- Survey parents for input on their ideas for staff professional development.
- Invite parents to planning meetings to develop trainings.

Activities:

- Create survey document for parents to fill out during parent (PTA/PTO) meetings.
- Request parent input through developed survey on what training they'd like to see for principals and school staff.
- Compile suggestions and develop a plan of action for organizing suggested professional development.
- Send parents a follow-up letter notifying them when professional development will take place and thanking them for their participation with the survey.

Literacy training *Each LEA and school may provide Literacy training with Part A funds if the LEA has used all other available funding sources.*

- Identify existing literacy training available to staff through Arizona State Library and other community partners.
- Actively seek literacy training and workshop opportunities throughout the State.

Activities:

- Identify trainings available in the state of Arizona for the school year. Use available funds to purchase registration/travel fees to send staff to literacy training or workshop in the state.
- Use available funds to pay for speaker to come to the school to train school staff.
- Send staff a letter encouraging them to research and seek opportunities for professional development.

Parent's Expense *Each LEA and school may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities including transportation and child care.*

- Designate individual responsible for coordinating carpool/transportation for parents.
- Provide payment (using grant funds available) for fingerprinting and criminal background check for individuals providing onsite childcare for meetings.
- Recruit High School students (from neighboring school) to serve as babysitters.
- Provide training meeting with refreshments to student child care providers including procedures for accidents, health issues, fighting, discipline, etc.

Activities:

- Hold a volunteer fair with a designated theme.
- Seek parents, grandparents, etc available to coordinate carpools for their area and/or serve as babysitters during school meetings and activities.
- Have balloons, banners, refreshments and music for the event.

Parents Reaching Out to Parents *Each LEA and school may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.*

- Recruit parents during PTA/PTO meetings.
- Offer parents workshops on how to serve in leadership positions at the school.
- Provide tip sheets encouraging parents to reach out to other parents.

Activities:

- Provide in house training to parents who volunteer to serve as leaders.
- Seek parents from existing parent councils, advisory boards, etc to attend one-day workshop or training on how to be a school leader/how to increase parental involvement in school, etc.
- Provide incentives for parent leaders.
- Provide framed certificate of completion to workshop/training participants.

Convenient School Meetings *Each LEA and school may arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between parents who are unable to attend the school meetings.*

- Encourage staff to conduct in-home conferences for parents unable to attend meetings.
- When safety is a concern, encourage parent/teacher tele-conferences. Coordinate translators as needed for conferences.
- Alter times for PTA/PTO meetings, giving working parents an opportunity to attend.
- Recruit school volunteer(s) to arrange carpools for parents without transportation to attend conferences and meetings.

Activities:

- Provide Student-led conferences to allow students to showcase their class work and academic progress for the school year.
- Provide students with a portfolio to highlight examples of their writing, math assignments, spelling quizzes, etc.
- Provide refreshments during conferences.
- Invite close friends, relatives to attend on behalf of parents unable to make the conference.
- Publicize the event in the school newspaper, school newsletter, fliers, posters and automated telephone messages.

Model Approaches *Each LEA and school may adopt and implement model approaches for improving parental involvement.*

- Form group of parents/teachers to meet regularly to discuss how to improve parental involvement in the school.
- Ensure group members represent the school population in ethnic background and economic status.

Activities:

- Host a quarterly coffee with the principal in which parents can give input on how to improve parent involvement in the school.
- Allow meeting participants to submit anonymous surveys/questionnaire (created by school staff) on parental involvement activities.
- Allow space for comments to be made on the form.

District wide Parent Council *Each LEA and school may establish a Parent Advisory Council to provide advice on all issues related to parental involvement in funded programs.*

- Recruit widely for members of Parent Advisory Council.
- Hold various meeting times that appeal to working parents.
- Provide food and/or childcare to encourage parent attendance.
- Coordinate meeting with another existing Council for ideas and insight on how to conduct meetings.
- Elect officers for the Council.
- Post upcoming meetings in school newsletter.

Activities:

- Discuss Parent Advisory Council with parents during school open house.
- Provide detailed information on what is expected of members of the Council and how parental participation is valued and necessary for a successful school year.
- Provide sign-up sheets for parents interested in being members in the Advisory Council.
- Provide survey for parents with their preferred meeting times, preferred time of month for meeting.

Community Involvement *Each LEA and school may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses to be involved with in parent involvement activities.*

- Encourage parent liaison to reach out to community organizations for collaboration.

- Create parent involvement activities that require interaction with local non-profit/community-based organizations.
- Contact local YMCA and Boys and Girls Club for calendar of activities during the school year.
- Meet with local grocery store managers to discuss opportunities for involvement with school activities.

Activities:

- Collaborate with local Senior Citizen Group or Home.
- Have residents volunteer to read to children at school or serve as supervisors during drop-off/pick-up, lunch and recess times.
- Have students visit the Senior Center/Group Home during the holidays to decorate rooms, sing songs, perform skits and play games with residents.

Arizona State PIRC (Parent Information Resource Center) is a technical assistance center helping schools, families and community agencies implement successful parental involvement programs. It is our passion to create policies that lead to improvements in student academic achievement. PIRC offers a myriad of customized trainings, workshops, tip sheets, and literature on proven strategies to increase parental involvement in schools. For ideas on how to meet your Title I mandates, Arizona State PIRC is available to assist you. Contact us toll free at: 877-278-3891 or email us at: azpirc.com.