**Onalaska Independent School District**

**District Parental Involvement Plan**

**2014-2015**

**The mission of Onalaska Independent School District is to provide a safe and exceptional education that unlocks student potential to become responsible and productive members of society. The district’s parent involvement plan is designed to ensure our district parents are involved as knowledgeable partners in this endeavor.**

**Developing the Parent Involvement Policy**

An advisory committee will be formed consisting of parents, community members, teachers and staff, and principals and/or administrators to develop and revise the Onalaska ISD Parent Involvement Policy. The need for volunteers to serve on this committee will be publicized and then volunteers will be selected. The parent volunteers will represent the diversity of the student population, and one or more parents on the advisory committee will have children participating in a Title 1 program. The advisory committee will convene at a time and place convenient to all its members.

Additionally, Onalaska ISD understands that the parental involvement policy is a part of the district and campus improvement plans. The advisory committee will also provide input regarding the development and revision of the district and/or campus improvement plan.

Parents of students in all grade levels will be included in a variety of coordinated and comprehensive activities that encourage parent involvement. The activities will vary according to the grade levels served on each campus, however, the goal at every campus is to increase parent involvement which will in turn, bring about higher student achievement.

**Parent Involvement in Planning, Review, and Implementation of Title I Programs Including School-Parent Compacts**

Each campus involves parents on its Campus Improvement Committee. It is this committee that makes certain decisions with the guidance of the campus principal. The Title I campuses distribute the School-Parent Compact at the annual Title I Parent Meeting and Parent/Teacher Conference Day. The responsibilities of all parties involved are explained in the compact and in return, the parents are asked to sign the compact to show their commitment to their child’s success in school. The compacts are also discussed with the faculty at faculty meetings.

During the spring planning time, the parents involved on the Campus Improvement Committee are consulted regarding the use of the campus allocation of federal and local money. The parents are involved in every aspect of campus plans. They are asked for input in the implementation of the campus plans for its federal funds. The main guideline for the planning and expenditure of federal funds is determined by whether or not the expenditure will increase student achievement.

**Building Capacity**

Onalaska ISD values the partnership of the parents in their children’s education. There are ways parents make significant contributions to student success both at home and by volunteering at the school. Student achievement is the result of effective home-school-community partnerships.

Onalaska ISD shall:

* Provide assistance to parents in how to monitor a child’s progress, and how to work with educators to improve student achievement.
* Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement.
* Provide training to teachers and school personnel with the assistance of parents to implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
* Provide information in a format and language the parents understand.
* May involve parents in the development of training for teachers.
* May provide necessary literacy training.
* May pay reasonable expenses associated with local parental involvement activities.
* May arrange school meetings at a variety of times.
* May develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations in parental involvement activities.

**Coordination of Programs**

Onalaska ISD will develop a partnership with its public pre-school program. Parental involvement strategies will be coordinated to assist the transition from pre-school to elementary school.

Annually, Onalaska ISD will assess the needs of the parents and children in the school community using a variety of tools including a survey or questionnaire. The findings will be used to revise the Title 1 program to meet the current needs. Workshops or other training will be made available to educators and parents to address these needs. Parents will be notified about training opportunities.

**Reservation of Funds**

Onalaska ISD is required to set aside at least 1% of its Title 1 funds for the purposes of parental involvement if the Title 1 Part A allocation is $500,000 or above. Even though OISD’s Title 1 Part A Program currently receives less than the $500,000 allocation, the district is required to provide a parental involvement program. The campus principals will consult with the Title 1 Advisory Committee about allowable use of funds. The campus principal will then authorize the use of the funds designated for parental involvement.

**Curriculum and Academic Assessments**

All Onalaska ISD campuses disseminate information to its parents concerning the use of academic assessments to guide instruction and achievement of its students. The dissemination of this information can be in the form of a newsletter, notices home to parents, or information posted on the campus website. As required by the NCLB Act of 2001 all Title I campuses focus on student achievement. Academic assessments are written to test the students’ learning to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and in preparation for the State Standardized Testing.

**Parent Involvement and Participation of Parents of Migratory Students, Parents with Disabilities, and Parents of Diverse Cultures**

Onalaska ISD has involved its parents through several activities included in its District Improvement Plan. The activities range from increasing the attendance rate by making personal calls to parents of children who are absent to involving parents in the use of data folders in which the students monitor their learning. Parents may also be involved in activities that academically prepare students for life after secondary school and entering the work force.

Onalaska ISD makes every effort to fulfill the needs of every parent in order to increase the parent’s involvement in its schools.

**Evaluation**

Onalaska ISD will work with its Title 1 Advisory Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the parental Involvement Program. Surveys, classroom observation, assessment data, and other resources will be used to determine the needs and develop revised strategies for student success. Parental input will be sought. Revisions to the Title 1 Program and the Parental Involvement Policy will be developed and agreed upon with parent input and will be communicated to the parents in the district or school.