

## Deer Park Schools is a Title 1 District

Deer Park Elementary and Arcadia Elementary participate in the Title 1 Program. Title 1, Part A is a part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Its goal is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards. Our Title 1 schools qualify for federal grant money which we use for additional staffing, educational supports, parent involvement, and staff development to help us meet that goal. This update is intended to provide you with important information about this law and your child's education. Please contact the principal if you would like more information about Title 1 activities or parent participation at your child's school.

### Parent Involvement Policy 4130

The board recognizes that parent and family engagement helps students participating in Title I programs achieve academic standards. To promote parent and family engagement, the board adopts the following policy, which describes how the district will involve parents and family members of Title I students in developing and implementing the district's Title I programs. The district will do the following to promote parent and family engagement:

- A. Involve parents and family members in jointly developing the district's Title I plan
- B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the district in the planning and implementing of effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- C. The district will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of all Title I schools.
- D. Involve parents of Title I student in decisions about how the Title I funds reserved for parent and family engagement are spent.
- E. The district and each of the schools within the district providing Title I services will do the following to support a partnership among schools, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement:
  - a. Provide assistance to parents of Title I students, as appropriate, in understanding: Washington's challenging academic standards, 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 to improve the achievement of their children.
  - b. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement.

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### District and School Report Card Information

Due to COVID-19, state assessments, specifically the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAs), were canceled in 2019-20 and delayed and shortened in 2020-21 to be taken in fall of 2021. DPE does not take the SBA test and this fall, only 4th and 5th graders will take the modified math and language arts SBA test at Arcadia.

If you have an interest in seeing previous SBA assessment scores for Deer Park, you can go to: [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us). The Report Card contains information about test results as well as other statistics about the school. To find results for Deer Park Public Schools, use the drop down menu in the box at the top left of the webpage to find Deer Park School District, and press "go." To find results for your child's school, follow those directions to go to Deer Park School District, then use the drop down menu to find your school. You can also find the link to this page on our website, [www.dpsd.org](http://www.dpsd.org), under the "Parents and Students" tab.

### Questions on Title 1?

Email: [steve.hitchcock@dpsdmail.org](mailto:steve.hitchcock@dpsdmail.org) or call: (509) 464-5708 for Steve Hitchcock, Title 1 Director for Deer Park School District and Assistant Principal at Arcadia Elementary

# Title 1 Information Continued

## Parent Involvement Policy, Continued

- c. Educate teachers and specialized instructional support staff.
- F. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate,
- G. Ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children. The information will be provided in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

### School-Based Parent and Family Engagement Policies

Each school offering Title I services will have a separate parent and family engagement policy, which will be developed with parents and family members of Title I students. Parents and family members will receive notice of their school's parent and family engagement policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Each school-based policy will describe how each school will do the following:

1. Convene an annual meeting at a convenient time, to which all parents of Title I students will be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their schools' participation under Title I, to explain the requirements of Title I, and to explain the rights that parents have under Title I.
2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, reviewing, and improving of Title I programs.
4. Provide parents of Title I students the following:
  1. Timely information about Title I programs;
  2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards; and
  3. 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 suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

This is a condensed version of School Board Policy 4130 Title 1 Parental Involvement. For a full version of this policy and procedure, please go to [www.dpsd.org/school-board/](http://www.dpsd.org/school-board/), then click on the "policy/procedure" icon on the right side of the webpage. Continue to follow the prompts to get to this specific policy and procedure.

## Teacher and Para Qualifications

In an effort to keep parents informed of the qualifications of teachers, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) allows parents and guardians to inquire at school whether their child(ren)'s teacher(s) have met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject taught. Parents and guardians may inquire whether a teacher is under emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and they may request information about undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration. Parents and guardians can also ask about paraprofessionals working with your child in reading, writing, and/or mathematics. We can tell you whether he/she meets state qualifications and/or licensing requirements. Deer Park School District annually conducts an audit of teacher assignments to assure that no teachers are assigned to areas for which they do not meet Washington State certification and/or endorsement requirements. Only on rare occasions does the District seek a waiver to certification.

## Citizen Complaint Information

If you believe that the law that applies to federal programs like Title 1 has been violated, you have the right to file a complaint. First, contact your child's school. If you can't reach a solution, you can file a Citizen Complaint through the Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction. You can also find the link to this page on our website, [www.dpsd.org](http://www.dpsd.org), by clicking "annual notifications" under the "Parents and Students" tab.