

ISD #2687, HOWARD LAKE-WAVERLY-WINSTED SCHOOLS 2025-26 TITLE I DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Independent School District #2687 is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement for our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

The state education department releases the MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment) scores for our district in late August/early September. Parents receive the final state test scores for their child in the fall. Grade level standards for the children of the HLWW Public Schools will be discussed with parents during Fall Goal Setting Conferences with the expectation that all students will work toward these standards. We recognize that some students may need the extra assistance available through the Title I Program to reach those standards. School District #2687 intends to include parents in all aspects of the district's Title I Program. The goal is a school-home partnership that will help all students in the district to succeed. The Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness report is available to district residents upon request, and is also located on the district website.

2. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING THE POLICY

The Title I Advisory Committee meets to plan activities and programs, reviews and revises the school district's Parental Involvement Policy and provides opportunities for parents to volunteer in the school. Each public and non-public school in the district will have teacher, parent and administrative representation. Our Advisory committee will be chosen from volunteers in each school attendance area in our district (after appropriate publicity about the need for volunteers). Special attention will be given to recruiting parents of children in the Title I program.

3. ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I PARENTS

At the annual meeting for all Title I parents, which will be held in the fall in each public school of the district, parents will be given information about Title I guidelines, the Title I curriculum, assessments, explanation of the criteria for Title I services and exit criteria, and information on parent/child activities. They will be given copies of the district's current Parental Involvement Policy and will be offered a chance to become involved in revising that policy as needed.

The annual meeting will be held once for parents in the fall. Written explanations will be available for those unable to attend. Translation (English-Spanish and Spanish-English) will be available if requested. Parents will be sent written notices about the meeting times. Parents will be encouraged to serve on the HLWW Lakers PTA (Parent-Teacher Association), the district wide Title I Advisory Team, or the district advisory council. An effort will be made to accommodate any children or parents with disabilities.

4. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

According to the Title I regulations, each school must share responsibility with parents for high student performance by developing a school-parent-student compact jointly with the parents of children participating in the program. These compacts must outline how parents, staff, and students will share responsibility for promoting high student achievement. The Title I Advisory Committee will be involved in designing and revising of the compacts.

Parents will receive the compact from their child's school at fall Parent/Teacher conferences with a checklist of responsibilities that teachers, parents, and students will each have for helping students achieve their goals. Parents and students are urged to discuss the compact with the teacher before signing it. The parent's signature is the acknowledgement that discussion of the compact with their child took place. Compacts will be reviewed mid-year at parent/teacher conferences.

5. TYPES OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted School District will continue to involve parents in the following ways by:

- ❖ Providing Parent-Teacher conferences twice a year.
- ❖ Offering an annual Title I meeting.
- ❖ Receiving quarterly reports on their child's progress.
- ❖ Providing opportunities to volunteer and participate in their children's classroom.
- ❖ Observing classroom activities.
- ❖ Building parent capacity for involvement by providing assistance to parents understanding of curriculum and state's academic standards, state and local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress.
- ❖ Working with teachers to improve the academic achievement of their children.
- ❖ Providing discussion, materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement in the areas of math and literacy.
- ❖ Collaborating of parents, teachers, support staff and administration on the child's behalf.
- ❖ Providing information related to school and parental programs, meetings and other activities in a format and language that parents can understand.
- ❖ Providing an Advisory Team that meets on a regular basis to plan, evaluate and improve activities for student success.
- ❖ Encouraging parent attendance in school activities and family events such as our VIP Breakfast, Book Sales with Title I Family Nights, Music Programs, P/T Conferences and events held with Family Fun Nights sponsored jointly with the HLWW Lakers PTA.
- ❖ Conducting surveys and gathering feedback to help evaluate the effectiveness of our parent and community involvement model on an ongoing basis.
- ❖ Providing translation and interpretation, including translating newsletters, school flyers and other informational materials.

6. MATCHING PROGRAMS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Each year, the school district will assess the needs of parents and children in this community, through a variety of measures – including questionnaires sent home to parents – so that the Title I Program will be tailored to meet the identified needs. Workshops and other programs will be available (some for parents, some for parents and children) to match the expressed needs. Daycare will be provided if there is a need. Parents will be notified about these opportunities through the individual schools. Parents may call the district office or their local school office at any time to express an interest in a particular workshop or to make suggestions.

HLWW Public School district staff, principals and kindergarten teachers meet with early childhood programs to ensure that the transition to elementary school is welcoming for the students and parents. HLWW Lakers PTA (Parent-Teacher Association) representatives invite parents to PTA meetings at the schools. A Kindergarten Roundup is held at the schools which incoming kindergarten parents are invited to attend. Kindergarten classrooms hold a registration and visitation for all preschool children and their parents. There is also a one-day orientation for rising 5th graders to transition smoothly to Middle School. Parents have an active involvement as to how the Title I Parent Involvement dollars are spent.

7. STAFF-PARENT COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents about Title I will be included in the elementary school newsletter. There will be notices and activity packets, phone calls, conferences, and educational information sent home with children. There will be parental notification that Title I staff will be available at conferences. The school will also notify parents of special concerns/needs. Parents will be encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher when they are concerned about a problem. They may also call the school office and ask for a translator for conferences. If needed, notices sent home would have English on one side and Spanish on the other. Staff will be receiving training on how to improve home-school communication.

The district has information on the website especially designed for parents with a district calendar and information about school activities, monthly newsletters, and access to the MN Academic Standards. A direct link to the Minnesota Department of Education's website is also available as an additional resource.

8. EVALUATION

The Title I Advisory Committee will be involved in the process of school review and improvement. Parents of children in the Title I Program will be part of this group. The aim will be to evaluate the schools in this district, collect information in a variety of ways, and include visits to the schools and observation of classes.

There will be an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Title I parental involvement program in which parents will be asked for their input. The evaluation will include an assessment of how much parental involvement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome. The school district will revise its Parental Involvement Policy on the basis of this annual review.

9. APPLICATION

This commitment to family involvement has been approved by the School Board of District #2687. The policy will be coordinated by Title I supervisory staff and teachers throughout the district and promoted by building principals and other school staff.

Approved by Title One Advisory Team: May 13, 2025

Brought forward to School Board: June 9, 2025

ISD #2687

LEA Representative Jennifer Olson

District Title I Teacher Gretchen Karg, Heidi Joy-Bursch

District Title I Teacher Bernice Pehl, Sarah Schanus

Teacher: Stephany Jallo (EL and Intervention)

Parents: Amanda Rassmussen, Stacy Thomas, Monique Karels, Tara Hall and Ann Lammers

School Board Reps: Katie Koch, Brian Marketon and Allie Bauman
