

Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan 2019-2020 School Year

Mesabi East Schools, including Mesabi East Elementary School, 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 by 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.

PART I. DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS

The Mesabi East School District agrees to implement the following requirements:

The Mesabi East Schools will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I programs. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

- The Mesabi East Schools will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent involvement plan meets the Title I requirements, and includes, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The Mesabi East Schools will incorporate this district-wide parent involvement plan into its district plan.
- In carrying out the Title I parent involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the Mesabi East Schools plan for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to Minnesota Department of Education.
- The Mesabi East Schools will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in Minnesota (i.e., Minnesota Parent Center, Bloomington, MN).

PART II. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School parent involvement plan:

- *How will parents be included in writing the parent involvement plan?*

Parental input will be gathered and discussed through the following:

- **Annual Parent Advisory meeting**
- **Elementary PTO meetings**
- **Fall and Winter Parent/Teacher Conferences**
- **E-mail communications from parents**
- **Annual Parent Survey**

2. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will involve parents in the process of district and school plan, review and improvement [i.e. district plan, *section 1112*, schoolwide *section 1114*, and/or school *improvement section 1116*];

How will the school/district inform parents of school report card?

Every year, parents are informed of the school report card through:

- **Mesabi East Schools website**
www.isd2711.org
- **Local newspaper (Mesabi Daily News and District newsletter)**

Inquiring parents, who do not have access to a home computer, may request the use of a school computer to gather the needed information.

How will the district/school notify the parents that their child's school has been identified as needs improvement?

Parents will be notified of the district's/school's AYP status through:

- **School website**

How will the school identify students who qualify for Title I services?

Mesabi East Elementary School Title I-A program is designated as a Schoolwide program. Students are identified through MCA results, classroom achievement, district assessment: iReady for reading and math, and teacher recommendation.

How will the district/school choice option, parent may transfer their child to another school within the district not on AYP?

Mesabi East Schools has one Elementary School and one High School.

How will the district/school involve parents of the identified sub-student groups as part of the school support team?

Parents will be personally contacted and encouraged to participate on teams supporting the school. These teams will include, but not exclusive to, the World's Best Workforce, PTO, and Title I Parent Advisory.

How will the district/school conduct staff development for implementing effective strategies for parental involvement?

Parents will be contacted and encouraged to participate in the Staff Development process as an active member of the various committees in the

district and school. Goals will be designed to address and include Parent Involvement.

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review and improvement of the school parental involvement plan;

Parents' participation will be solicited through the local newspapers, the school website, and personal contact. An Advisory Team meets once during the school year, at a minimum, to discuss and plan the Title I program.

4. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement.

5. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist Title I schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

Mesabi East will provide scheduling, technical support, and facilitation (if needed) for A variety of PI activities. Some of these activities may include: Parent Nights, Bingo-for-Books, Grade-level Family Nights &/or accessing progress information via the district's on-line student progress program, PowerSchool.

The Mesabi East Schools are on a EC-12 campus. Technical assistance is provided through yearly inservices & daily support.

Current technology usage includes, but are not exclusive to:

***SMART boards in all classrooms**

***PowerSchool support for school attendance, Grades (PowerGrade) &**

***Lunch accounts (PowerLunch) Parental access to all**

***Mesabi East Schools webpage**

*** iPads issued to all students in grades 5-12**

***STEAM lab access for grades PreK-6**

***One to One ipads for grades PreK through 6 and in the High School 7-12**

6. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the activities specifically described below:

Parents will be invited and encouraged to attend all events publicized through the monthly school calendar, local newspapers, and individual communication. This may be as personal as a phone call or as broad as school-wide notes, and will include goal setting strategies for the school and district.

*** Events held in conjunction with the PTO, &/or Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition**

7. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.

Mesabi East welcomes comments, both written and verbal, regarding programming for our students. Any and all comments will be responded to by the administration. Careful consideration will be given to include concerns in program plan revisions when reviewing and evaluating.

- A. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --

- the state's academic content standards,
- the state's student academic achievement standards,
- the 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.

Mesabi East provides an electronic link to the MN Department of Education's website, as well as access to "hard copies" of any of the standards.

The District will strive to make information available to parents through local Parent Nights, Family Nights, School publications, Parent/Teacher Conferences, PowerSchool and using the POWER ANNOUNCEMENT Alert messaging system.

Grade reporting and curriculum will be aligned with the State Standards; Standards will be discussed, at a minimum, during bi-yearly conferences.

- B. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will provide parents of participating children, 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 such suggestions as soon as practically possible.

- C. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

Providing access and assistance, if needed, to technology. This includes access to individual student accounts and information/communication through PowerSchool. The district will also encourage parents to participate in Parent Nights and/or activities specifically designed to meet training needs of the parents and community.

- D. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate

with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

Through scheduled in-service days and encouraging staff to participate in activities designed for the Mesabi East community members, it is the goal of Mesabi East Schools to instill a universal ownership in the education of our students.

- E. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
Beginning with the 2009-2010 SY, the local Headstart program has been housed on the Mesabi East campus. Participation and coordination in the Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition and the Mesabi East PTO will, hopefully, continue to integrate programming and further parent education.
- F. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
Title I programming and information is formally discussed at Title I-A Advisory/Continuous School Improvement Team and World's Best Workforce committee meetings.
8. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs such as:
Headstart, Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition, Mesabi East PTO, and local community daycare facilities.
9. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement plan.
Mesabi East Schools is comprised of a predominantly Caucasian, middle-class to lower middle class community. Program evaluation will be gathered through discussions at scheduled meetings, parent nights, informal conversations, and formal evaluations using Google Forms, linked to the Mesabi East Elementary webpage.

In order to avoid as many barriers as possible, childcare and food will be provided, when appropriate.

10. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved.
Mesabi East Elementary School will organize and inform parents of their right to be involved in the planning, participation and evaluation of the Title I program on an annual basis. Invitations will be disseminated through the local newspaper, electronic bulletins, monthly calendar, PTO, monthly school board meetings. Again, to avoid as many barriers as possible, food and daycare will be available.
11. The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will involve parents in the decisions regarding how funds reserved for parental involvement activities will be used:
Discussions will involve parents, as much as possible, regarding reserved PI funds at a variety of meetings. These may include PTO, Early Childhood, Parent nights, and Curriculum Review meetings.
12. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
The Schoolwide program plan for Title I is available to parents via "hard copies", available by request.

PART III. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

As a component of the school-level parental involvement plan, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

- Conduct a parent/teacher conference in elementary schools, annually (at a minimum), during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement;
- Provide frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and
- Provide parents with reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities.

Mesabi East Schools conducts Parent/Teacher conferences in September, October, November, and February of each school year. During the fall conferences, the school-parent compacts are discussed and signed.

Before the beginning of each school year, parents are given parent/guardian access codes for PowerSchool. PowerSchool is an online program designed to allow parents and teachers to communicate via e-mail, check individual student grades, check financial accounts, access daily bulletins, and view teacher comments.

Individual teachers also send notes home with students, regarding class activities and communications.

PART IV. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN COMPONENTS

The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's' academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement.
- Establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

Mesabi East, like most school organizations, struggles to involve a large number of parents in a variety of meetings. Successful meetings with parents often involve making some form of daycare and food available. In order to involve more parents, a small group of parents have collaborated with the school to informally design an involvement format that has shown more effective for us than any other plan. This format involves short informative meetings incorporated within other activities. For example, there may be a scheduled Family night focusing on the bullying issues in school. During this time, the school may ask parents for input on another topic related to their child's education.

PART V. ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part Mesabi East Elementary and/or Mesabi East Schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Currently, Mesabi East does not have a limited English population. Mesabi East will make every effort possible to communicate with, and involve all parents.

PART VI. ADOPTION

The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by meeting minutes and sign-in sheets.

On 06/4/2019, the Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan will be in effect for the period of school year.

The Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School will distribute this plan to all parents of participating Title I children on or before date.

_____Amy J. Maki_____

(Signature of Title I Authorized Representative)

_____June 4th, 2019_____

(Date)

These parents were involved with the development of Mesabi East School District/Mesabi East Elementary School Parent Involvement Plan:

Jessica Hoechst, Parent

Lindsay Soular, Parent