

**Title I**  
**Benton Area School District**  
**L. R. Appleman Elementary School**  
**Parent Involvement Policy**  
**2011-2012**

The Benton Area School District is committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledges that parents share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. We define parent and family involvement as an ongoing process that assists parents and families to meet their basic obligations as the child's first educator, promotes clear, two-way dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as leaders and decision makers at all levels concerning the education of their children .

Our written plan for Title I parent involvement, which was jointly developed by parents and school staff follows:

All parents will be invited to become a member of the Parent Advisory Council when they are notified of the eligibility of their child. This group of volunteer parents will meet periodically during the year. They will review and revise current policies, school parent compacts and progress reports annually. They will help plan upcoming events, contact other parents, and discuss concerns and suggestions to improve and increase parent participation. The PAC will also be involved in the planning and improvement of the educational program for Title I students.

Each child's parents/guardians will receive a written notification that their child has been selected to participate in the Title I program. A parent consent form will be attached to be signed and returned. A copy of the Title I parent involvement policy will also be included.

Instructional objectives and children's progress will be discussed and explained during parent conferences. The school-parent compact will also be presented and discussed with parents. Conferences will be held during the regularly scheduled district parent/guardian conferences. Additional conferences will be scheduled throughout the school term as needed. Parents should feel free to request a conference at any time.

Progress reports will be sent two times during the school year (January, April) by the Title I teacher. In addition, parents will receive an individual report of evaluation assessment results with a copy of the standards and assessments in November, February and June. At the end of the school year parents will be notified whether or not their child is academically eligible for Title I services for the following year.

A Title I newsletter, Reading Connection - Beginning Edition, will be sent to parents monthly during the school year. Additional information about local events will be added when applicable.

Parent meetings, including a fall Annual Meeting, will be held to distribute information about the Title I program. This will include an explanation of Title I guidelines, requirements and parents right to be involved. Information about Pennsylvania academic content standards will be shared. These meetings and workshops, which will be made available to parents at different times during the day when possible, will have a formal component to gain information and a time for discussion and sharing of ideas with each other, staff, and administration. Parent requested workshops will be provided to help parents/guardians learn strategies which will help students improve reading skills. Workshops will be presented collaboratively by Title I and classroom teachers at the beginning of the year in grades K-3. Supervised childcare will be available for meetings and workshops.

An annual survey that will be developed by parents and staff will be distributed to all parents at the end of the year to evaluate the effectiveness of the program and assess parent needs.