



# MERRILLVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

6701 Delaware Street, Merrillville, IN 46410-3586

(219) 650-5300 FAX (219) 650-5320

www.mvsc.k12.in.us

## ADMINISTRATION

ANTHONY M. LUX, Ph.D.  
Interim Superintendent

HILDA DAMIANICK  
Ass't Superintendent  
Business Affairs

KARA S. BONIN  
Director, Elementary  
Curriculum and Instruction

LORRI COVACIU, Ed.S.  
Director, Secondary  
Curriculum and Instruction

DANNY LACKEY  
Director  
Diversity and Student  
Support Services

STEVEN J. KERR  
Coordinator  
Technology Services

JANELLE BOWEN  
Director  
Media Services

JANIS QUALIZZA  
Athletic Director

BRAD BEST  
Director Security

DAVID R. HARMAN  
Director Transportation

JOSEPH BARDESON  
Director  
Maintenance Services

COLLEEN HOSTETLER  
Director  
Food Services

## BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

MARK S. LUCAS  
President

JAMES DONOHUE  
Vice-President

LINDA C. JONAITIS  
Secretary

THOMAS G. BAINBRIDGE  
Member

OFELIA GREGOLINE  
Member

## Title I LEA Parent Involvement Policy Merrillville Community School Corporation

The following outline is in compliance with the legal requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (PL 107-110, Section 1118). The document represents joint development with parents, teachers, and principals. The policy will be available to all parents of children participating in Title I.

The purpose of Merrillville Community School Corporation's Title I Program is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state assessments. We value the role parents play as their child's first teacher and the influences of their continued support to promote higher student academic achievement and school performance. Title I at the district level, referred to as the Local Education Agency (LEA), will support each participating Title I school to form a partnership with their parents and the community to develop a shared responsibility for student academic achievement and school performance so that young people emerge from the Merrillville Community School Corporation qualified to be productive citizens.

1. Parents will have an opportunity to assist in developing the district plan, review the Title I program and make suggestions for improvement. To accomplish this, the LEA, or school district, will begin by assisting each Title I school in arranging an annual orientation meeting for parents to inform them of the following:

- Title I objectives
- Instructional methods
- The student selection process
- Test scores and how the schools are identified for improvement (section 1116)
- Parental rights to request information about the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals in their school (section 1119).

2. The LEA will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other necessary support to Title I schools as they plan and implement effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. The LEA will provide support by:

- Being available for guidance and/or advice as meetings are organized at the building level (A LEA Staff member will attempt to attend at least one of these meetings at each Title I school).

- Providing guidance in the development of building level parent involvement policies and school-parent compacts.
- Providing recommendations regarding training and parent literature and materials.

3. In order to promote the schools' and parents' capacity to form a strong partnership and work towards higher student achievement, the LEA will support each Title I school by:

- Providing guidance as the Title I schools assist parents in understanding such topics as the State's student academic standards and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- Encouraging teachers to work together with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs to build ties between the parent and the school.
- Encouraging schools to promote communication through parent-teacher conferences, progress reports, and opportunities for observation of classroom activities.
- Encouraging schools to provide materials and information, such as literacy training to help parents in working with their children at home.
- Encouraging the education of teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff in the value and utility of contributions parents can make as classroom volunteers, sharing skills and interests and encouraging other parents.
- Making information available in a format and, to the extent possible, in language parents can understand.
- Coordinating and integrating parent involvement strategies under Title I with strategies under other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, Parents as teachers, and Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and State-run preschool programs
- Providing other reasonable support that parents may request, to the extent possible.

4. The LEA will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and the effectiveness of the district parent involvement policy in improving the academic quality of Title I schools. The LEA and parents will work together to determine:

- Barriers which may limit parent participation
- Strategies that can be implemented that will lead to more effective and increased parent involvement and parent input
- Necessary revisions of the parent involvement policies

Spr. 09 Parent Input Meeting- No Revisions  
 Spr. 10 Parent Input Meeting- No Revisions  
 Spr. 11 Parent Input Meeting- No Revisions  
 Spr. 12 Parent Input Meeting- No Revisions  
 Spr. 13 Parent Input Meeting- No Revisions  
 Spr. 14 Parent Input Meeting – No Revisions  
 Spr. 15 Parent Input Meeting – No Revisions