

Instruction Sheet – AASB POLICY REFERENCE MANUAL UPDATE SERVICE

2015-2016 UPDATE INSTRUCTION SHEET

NOTE: This packet includes only those policy manual pages that have been revised, deleted or newly established. Full text pages are included and are to be substituted as indicated below.

For ease of School Boards, AASB has identified those portions of the Update that require formal Board action in order to implement the policy changes. This is indicated by a “Yes” or “No.” A “No” is used if changes have been made only to an AR or an Exhibit, or if policy changes are limited to explanatory notes, legal reference or cross-reference updates, or minor grammatical or stylistic changes that have not changed the policy meaning.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE 2015-16 UPDATE: Several policies included in this update are based on changes to federal and state law that are not effective until the 2017-2018 school year. These policies are identified below with the notation “Delayed Implementation Note.” Accordingly, districts need not adopt these policy revisions until a later date, if delayed adoption is desired. If the policy is adopted prior to the effective date of the law, districts will need to be in compliance with the policy requirements.

Replace/Add	Formal Adoption Required	Description
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ARTICLE 6, Series 6000 - Instruction

BP/AP/E 6171	Yes (BP)	<p>TITLE I PROGRAMS</p> <p>The policy language has been revised to reflect the requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act that focuses on the use of federal funds to increase student achievement on state academic standards. The notes and the legal reference section have been updated to reflect ESSA rather than No Child Left Behind. The AR has been revised, and its title changed, to “Parent and Family Engagement in Title I Programs.” The ESSA has expanded the focus of parent involvement to whole family engagement in helping to increase student outcomes. The Exhibit’s title has also changed to “Notice to Parents Required by Every Student Succeeds Act” to reflect the federal change from NCLB. Despite this, for the 2016-17 school year, federal notices to be given to parents are based on NCLB requirements. However, certain notices are not required for the 2016-17 school year, including notice that a student is not taught by a highly qualified teacher. The Exhibit has removed notices that are not required for the 2016-17 school year, and has amended accountability notices to reflect the NCLB waiver. While that waiver expires in August 2016, Alaska will still implement school improvement plans and interventions for schools designated as priority or focus schools, and notice should be given to parents accordingly.</p>
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Instruction**BP 6171(a)****TITLE I PROGRAMS**

Note: This policy is mandatory for any district that receives or desires to receive Title I funds. Title I is part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 6301 *et seq.*), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110). Title I recipients must have a policy on parental participation and a policy ensuring equal provision of staff and materials among schools.

Title I programs shall provide identified students with supplementary services designed to instruct them in the district's core curriculum and improve their achievement in basic and advanced skills. The district shall provide these services, including remediation in reading, language and/or mathematics, on the basis of individual student needs identified annually and assessed with objective educational criteria.

When evaluating the effectiveness of Title I programs, staff shall assess individual student achievements and determine whether these students' improved performance has continued over a period of more than 12 months. Services shall be modified for students who do not make substantial progress.

(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Note: NCLB requires each district receiving Title I funds to “develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents of participating children a written parent involvement policy.” No Child Left Behind Act § 1118(a)(2). Additionally, each school served under Title I must work with parents to develop a written parent involvement policy for that school.

The parents/guardians of children enrolled in Title I programs shall be involved in planning, designing and implementing these programs in a systematic, ongoing, informed and timely fashion. They shall have regular opportunities to make recommendations on the educational needs of their children and on ways in which they can help their children benefit from the programs. All such recommendations shall receive timely responses. The [Superintendent/Chief School Administrator] shall develop procedures according to Title I requirements. These procedures shall contain: (1) the district's expectations for parental involvement, (2) specific strategies for effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, (3) methods to be used by building administrators with Title I programs to ensure parental involvement at that school, and (4) other provisions as required by federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the procedures are distributed to parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I.

TITLE I PROGRAMS (continued)**BP 6171(b)**

Through consultation with parents/guardians, the district shall annually assess the effectiveness of parental involvement programs and determine what action needs to be taken, if any, to increase parental participation.

Note: The following paragraph is mandatory for each district receiving Title I funds.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures which ensure that the district provides all district schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, with services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. This includes the same level of base funding, per student, for staff services, curriculum materials and instructional supplies. At the beginning of each school year, the ratio of students to teachers and auxiliary staff shall vary as little as possible from school to school. The Superintendent or designee shall maintain annual records to document this ratio and to indicate the quantity and quality of books and equipment at each school.

(cf. 6000 - Concepts and Roles)

Legal Reference:

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301–6514, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110)

Revised 1/03

TITLE I PROGRAMS**AP 6171(a)****Parent Involvement in Title I Programs**

Note: The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 continues the federal requirement that districts receiving Title I funds have a policy on parental involvement. Minor changes to this requirement were implemented with NCLB. Districts are no longer required to assist parents in understanding the national education goals. On the other hand, districts may now establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent involvement in Title I programs. Districts must provide full opportunities for the participation of parents of migratory students, to the extent practicable. General requirements continuing from previous years include the mandate that districts conduct, with parental input, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy. Additionally, each of the district's schools with a Title I program must have its own parental involvement policy created with input from parents of students attending that school. Finally, parents must be notified of the parent involvement policy.

These procedures meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind, except that they were not created with input from parents in your district. Each Board and individual school site should obtain parental input, as required by NCLB.

Each school shall support and encourage parental involvement opportunities, as identified in a school parent involvement policy. The policy must be developed in cooperation with parents and should include the following:

1. A plan for effective two-way communication between parents and the school regarding the school's policies and rules, and an individual child's progress;
2. A commitment from the school that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent to parents in a timely manner;
3. A description of the school's responsibilities to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment;
4. A description of the parents' responsibilities for supporting their children's learning such as monitoring attendance and homework completion; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
5. A description of how the school will promote to teachers and other personnel the value and utility of the contributions and involvement by parents;
6. The availability of assistance to parents in understanding the State's academic achievement and assessment standards;
7. The availability of materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement;

TITLE I PROGRAMS (continued)**AP 6171(b)**

8. The importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum –
 - a. frequent reports to the parents on their children's progress;
 - b. parent-teacher conferences to discuss the child's progress and placement and to describe the methods used to complement the student's instruction;
 - c. reasonable access to teachers and other educators, including the opportunity to observe program activities;
 - d. an annual meeting, at a time convenient for parent attendance, where all parents shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to discuss and review the content and effectiveness of the school parent involvement policy;
9. The timely notice to parents of information about parental involvement programs;
10. Insofar as possible, the coordination and integration of parental involvement activities with community groups;

In facilitating effective parental involvement, the Principal/Site Administrator may:

1. Provide regular meetings, at parent request, where parents may formulate suggestions and participate in decision-making about the education of their children;
2. Ensure, insofar as possible, that opportunities for full participation are given to parents who lack literacy skills or whose native language is not English;
3. Involve parents in the development and training of teachers, principals, and other educators in order to improve the effectiveness of such training;
4. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
5. Establish a parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement activities and programs.

Insofar as practical, parental involvement materials and information shall be provided in a language and format that parents understand.

Revised 1/03

E 6171(a)**NOTICE TO PARENTS REQUIRED BY NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001**

This list of parental notice requirements is designed to help districts meet the many notice requirements of NCLB. NCLB makes it clear that schools receiving federal funds must ensure that parents are actively involved and knowledgeable about their schools and their child's education. The law requires schools to give parents many different kinds of information and notices in a uniform and understandable format and to the extent practicable, in a language that parents understand. The only notices applying to districts that do **not** receive Title I funds are those regarding student privacy. The notices described in this example are summarized; please see the specific NCLB section cited for the exact requirements.

Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies

1. **Teacher Qualifications.** As required by NCLB §1111(h)(6)(A): At the beginning of each school year, a school district that receives funds under this part shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving funds under this part that the parents may request, and the district will provide the parents on request, information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. Whether the teacher has met the State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
 - b. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status.
 - c. The teacher's baccalaureate degree major and any other graduate certifications or degrees.
 - d. Whether paraprofessionals provide services to the student and, if so, their qualifications.
2. **Individual Achievement on State Assessment.** As required by NCLB §1111(h)(6)(B)(i): Districts must provide to parents information on the level of achievement of the parent's child in each of the State academic assessments.
3. **Teacher Not Highly Qualified.** As required by NCLB §1111(h)(6)(B)(ii): Districts must provide parents timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Limited English Proficient Students

1. As required by NCLB §1112(g)(1)(A) and (g)(2), and §3302(a): Districts must inform a parent of a limited English proficient child identified for participation, or participating in, such a program of the reasons for their child being identified, their child's level of English proficiency, instructional method, how their child's program will meet their child's needs, how the program will help the child to learn English, exit requirements for the program to meet the objectives of any limited English proficiency, and information regarding parental rights.

E 6171 (b)

2. As required by NCLB §1112(g)(1)(B), and §3302(b): Each district using funds provided under this part to provide a language instruction educational program that has failed to make progress on the annual measurable achievement objectives described in section 3122 for any fiscal year for which part A is in effect, shall separately inform the parents of a child identified for participation in such a program, or participating in such program, of such failure not later than 30 days after such failure occurs.
3. As required by NCLB §1112(g)(4) and §3302(e): Each district shall implement an effective means of outreach to parents of limited English proficient students to inform the parents regarding how they can be involved in their children's education, and be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels in core academic subjects, and meet challenging State academic achievement standards and State academic content standards expected of all students. In addition, the outreach shall include holding, and sending notice of opportunities for, regular meetings for formulating and responding to parent recommendations.

Academic Assessment and Local Education Agency and School Improvement

1. As required by NCLB §1116(b)(6): Districts shall promptly provide to parents of each student enrolled in an elementary school or a secondary school identified for school improvement under §1116(b)(1)(E)(i), for corrective action under §1116(b)(7)(C)(i), or for restructuring under §1116(b)(8)(A)(i).
 - a. An explanation of what the identification means, and how the school compares in terms of academic achievement to other district schools and the State educational agency;
 - b. The reasons for the identification;
 - c. An explanation of what the school identified for school improvement is doing to address the problem;
 - d. An explanation of what the district or State educational agency is doing to help the school address the achievement problem;
 - e. An explanation of how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement; and
 - f. An explanation of the parents' option to transfer their child to another public school under paragraphs (1)(E), (5)(A), (7)(C)(i), (8)(A)(i), and subsection (c)(10)(C)(vii) (with transportation provided by the agency when required by paragraph (9)) or to obtain supplemental educational services for the child, in accordance with subsection (e).

E 6171(c)

2. As required by NCLB §1116(b)(8)(c): Whenever the school fails to make adequate yearly progress and/or is restructured, the district shall provide the teachers and parents with an adequate opportunity to comment and participate in developing a plan.
3. As required by NCLB §1116(e)(2)(A): The district shall provide annual notice to parents of each student enrolled in an elementary school or a secondary school identified for school improvement under §1116(b)(1)(E)(i), for corrective action under §1116(b)(7)(C)(i), or for restructuring under §1116(b)(8)(A)(i):
 - a. The availability of supplemental education services;
 - b. The identity of approved providers that are within the district or whose services are reasonably available in neighboring districts; and
 - c. A brief description of those services, qualifications, and demonstrated effectiveness of each such provider.

Parental Involvement

1. As required by NCLB §1118(b): Parents shall be notified of the parental involvement policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.
2. As required by NCLB §1118(c): Each school shall:
 - a. 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, and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;
 - b. Offer a flexible number of meetings;
 - c. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs including the planning, review, and improvements of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the school wide program plan under §1114(b)(2);

E 6171 (d)

- d. Provide parents of participating children:
- Timely information about programs under this part;
 - A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and
 - 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 practicably possible.

Voluntary Public School Choice Program

Note: This notice requirement applies to those districts or schools receiving a federal grant to fund a voluntary school choice program.

1. As required by NCLB §5245(a): The district shall provide to parents of students in the area to be served by the Voluntary Public School Choice program with prompt notice of:
 - a. The existence of the program;
 - b. The program's availability; and
 - c. A clear explanation of how the program will operate.

Education of Homeless Children and Youths

1. As required by NCLB §722(e)(3)(C): The district shall provide written notice, at the time any homeless child or youth seeks enrollment in such school, and at least twice annually while the child or youth is enrolled in such school, to the parent or guardian of the child or youth (or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth) that:
 - a. Shall be signed by the parent or guardian;
 - b. Sets the general rights provided under this subtitle;
 - c. Specifically states:
 - The choice of schools homeless children and youths are eligible to attend,
 - That no homeless child or youth is required to attend a separate school for homeless children or youths,
 - That homeless children and youths shall be provided comparable services including transportation services, educational services, and meals through school meals programs; and
 - That homeless children and youths should not be stigmatized by school personnel; and,

E 6171 (e)

- d. Includes contact information for the local liaison for homeless children and youths.
2. As required by NCLB §722(g)(2)(B)(iii): In the case of an unaccompanied homeless youth, the district shall ensure that the homeless liaison assists in placement or enrollment decisions under this subparagraph, considers the views of such unaccompanied youth, and provides notice to such youth of the right to appeal.
3. As required by NCLB §722(g)(6)(A)(iv): Each district shall ensure that public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated where such children and youths receive services under this Act, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens.

Student Privacy

1. As required by NCLB §1061(c)(2)(A): The student privacy policies developed by a district shall provide for reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of such policies directly to the parents of students enrolled in schools served by that district. At a minimum, the district shall:
 - a. Provide such notice at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies; and
 - b. Offer an opportunity for the parent to opt the student out of the activity.
2. As required by NCLB §1061(c)(2): All districts shall provide reasonable notice of such existing policies to parents and guardians of students, e.g. “The Board has adopted and continues to use policies regarding student privacy, parental access to information, and administration of certain physical examinations to minors. *(Copies of those policies are available on request.)*”

Added 1/03