
By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2006

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Education - Parental Involvement Plans**
3 **PG 416-06**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Prince George's County public school system and
5 each school within the county to develop and implement a certain parental
6 involvement plan on or before a certain date; establishing the requirements for
7 each plan; requiring each school to prepare certain parental involvement family
8 kits; establishing the components of each kit; requiring each school to hold a
9 certain meeting at the beginning of each school year; requiring that parents be
10 given certain materials and certain information at a certain meeting; requiring
11 the county public school system to develop and implement a parental
12 involvement grading system; providing for the requirements of the grading
13 system; requiring each school to publish a volunteer resource book based on the
14 results of a certain parent survey; providing for the requirements of the
15 volunteer resource book; requiring the principal of each school to designate a
16 certain staff member as a parent facilitator; requiring the parent facilitator to
17 organize certain staff training; requiring the State Board of Education to require
18 at least a certain number of hours of parental involvement staff training as
19 professional development each year; requiring the county school system to
20 develop a teacher evaluation for parents to complete; and generally relating to
21 the development of parental involvement plans in elementary and secondary
22 schools in Prince George's County.

23 BY adding to
24 Article - Education
25 Section 4-127
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
29 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

4-127.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "KIT" MEANS THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT FAMILY KIT.

(3) "PARENT" INCLUDES A STUDENT'S LEGAL GUARDIAN, RELATIVE, OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE.

(4) "PLAN" MEANS THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN DEVELOPED BY THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM OR A SCHOOL UNDER THIS SECTION.

(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2006, THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND EACH SCHOOL WITHIN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PARENTS OF ITS STUDENTS, SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN IS TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES THAT ENHANCE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND REFLECT THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN AS STUDENTS AND THE NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS' FAMILIES.

(3) EACH PLAN SHALL:

(I) APPLY TO PARENTS OF STUDENTS AT ALL GRADE LEVELS IN A VARIETY OF ROLES;

(II) RECOGNIZE THAT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOLS SHOULD BE REGULAR, TWO-WAY, AND MEANINGFUL TO BE EFFECTIVE;

(III) PROMOTE AND SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE PARENTING;

(IV) ACKNOWLEDGE AND DESCRIBE THE INTEGRAL ROLE PARENTS HAVE IN ASSISTING STUDENT LEARNING;

(V) DEVELOP POLICIES AND PRACTICES THAT WELCOME PARENTS IN THE SCHOOL LEARNING COMMUNITY;

(VI) SEEK PARENTAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN FULFILLING THE SCHOOL'S ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY GOALS;

(VII) RECOGNIZE COMMUNITY RESOURCES THAT STRENGTHEN STUDENT LEARNING, SCHOOL PROGRAMS, AND FAMILY PRACTICES; AND

(VIII) REQUIRE REGULAR PUBLICATION OF AN UPDATED SCHOOL ACTIVITY LIST.

1 (C) (1) EACH SCHOOL SHALL PREPARE AGE- AND GRADE-APPROPRIATE
2 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT FAMILY KITS.

3 (2) EACH KIT SHALL INCLUDE:

4 (I) A COPY OF THE SCHOOL'S PLAN;

5 (II) A DESCRIPTION OF THE RECOMMENDED ROLE OF THE PARENT,
6 STUDENT, TEACHER, AND SCHOOL IN A STUDENT'S SCHOOL CAREER;

7 (III) A LIST AND DESCRIPTION OF THE WAYS FOR PARENTS TO
8 BECOME INVOLVED IN THE SCHOOL AND THE STUDENT'S EDUCATION;

9 (IV) A LIST OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL
10 YEAR THAT ENCOURAGE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT;

11 (V) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM BY WHICH PARENTS AND
12 TEACHERS CAN COMMUNICATE IN A REGULAR, TWO-WAY, AND MEANINGFUL
13 MANNER WITH EACH OTHER AND THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL;

14 (VI) A SURVEY FOR PARENTS THAT ASSESSES EACH PARENT'S
15 INTEREST IN VARIOUS VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR
16 AND DETERMINES HOW FREQUENTLY A PARENT VOLUNTEER WOULD LIKE TO
17 PARTICIPATE, INCLUDING THE OPTION OF JUST ONE TIME PER YEAR;

18 (VII) A DESCRIPTION OF AVAILABLE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY
19 RESOURCES, INCLUDING THE SCHOOL'S PARENT CENTER; AND

20 (VIII) A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
21 GRADING SYSTEM.

22 (D) (1) AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR, THE SCHOOL SHALL
23 HOLD A "PARENTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE" EVENING.

24 (2) AT THE MEETING, PARENTS SHALL BE GIVEN:

25 (I) A REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL;

26 (II) AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, INCLUDING:

27 1. WHAT STUDENTS WILL BE LEARNING;

28 2. HOW STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED;

29 3. WHAT PARENTS SHOULD EXPECT FOR THE STUDENT'S
30 EDUCATION; AND

31 4. HOW PARENTS CAN ASSIST AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN
32 THE STUDENT'S EDUCATION;

33 (III) A KIT FOR EACH STUDENT IN THE SCHOOL;

1 (IV) A COPY OF THE SCHOOL'S PROCESS FOR RESOLVING PARENTAL
2 CONCERNS INCLUDING HOW TO DEFINE A PROBLEM AND WHOM TO APPROACH AND
3 THE APPROPRIATE CONTACT INFORMATION; AND

4 (V) AN EXPLANATION OF THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT GRADING
5 SYSTEM.

6 (E) (1) THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL
7 DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT GRADING SYSTEM.

8 (2) THE SYSTEM SHALL INCLUDE:

9 (I) A LIST OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT PARENTS WERE INVITED TO
10 PARTICIPATE IN THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR;

11 (II) THE NUMBER, AGE, AND GRADE OF THE STUDENTS IN THE
12 DISTRICT FOR EACH PARENT;

13 (III) A METHODOLOGY FOR DETERMINING HOW THE PARENTS'
14 INVOLVEMENT WILL BE EVALUATED;

15 (IV) A DESCRIPTION OF A SCHOOL'S REQUIREMENTS REGARDING
16 COLLECTION OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT DATA AND REPORTING OF DATA TO THE
17 LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT;

18 (V) NOTICE OF THE MANNER BY WHICH PARENTS WILL BE
19 NOTIFIED OF THE GRADE; AND

20 (VI) ANY OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE
21 DETERMINATION OR ISSUANCE OF THE GRADE.

22 (F) (1) USING THE RESULTS OF THE PARENT SURVEY REQUIRED UNDER
23 SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, EACH SCHOOL SHALL PUBLISH A VOLUNTEER
24 RESOURCE BOOK.

25 (2) THE VOLUNTEER RESOURCE BOOK SHALL:

26 (I) LIST THE INTERESTS AND AVAILABILITY OF PARENT
27 VOLUNTEERS; AND

28 (II) BE USED BY SCHOOL STAFF ONLY.

29 (G) (1) THE PRINCIPAL OF EACH SCHOOL SHALL DESIGNATE ONE STAFF
30 MEMBER AS A PARENT FACILITATOR.

31 (2) THE PARENT FACILITATOR SHALL ORGANIZE STAFF TRAINING THAT
32 ENHANCES UNDERSTANDING OF:

33 (I) EFFECTIVE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT STRATEGIES; AND

1 (II) THE IMPORTANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN
2 SETTING EXPECTATIONS AND CREATING A CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO PARENTAL
3 PARTICIPATION.

4 (3) THE STATE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE AT LEAST 2 HOURS OF PARENTAL
5 INVOLVEMENT STAFF TRAINING AS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EACH YEAR.

6 (H) THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL DEVELOP
7 A TEACHER EVALUATION FOR PARENTS TO COMPLETE.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 July 1, 2006.