

# TITLE I

## DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### **What is the District Parent Advisory Council?**

The District Parent Advisory Council, or DPAC, is a group of parent volunteers from Title I Portland Public Schools' pre-schools, elementary, middle, and high schools. DPAC serves as a powerful catalyst of communication between the Title I Programs, individual schools, and parent representatives. Title I is part of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, providing money for schools serving disadvantaged students in the district. Last year, more than 20,000 Portland students qualified for services like preschool, full-day kindergarten, academic interventions or tutoring through Title I.

### **What is the purpose of the District Parent Advisory Council?**

The District Parent Advisory Council is the main source of information and opinion on matters relating to the schools. The DPAC members enhance parent capacity at their home schools by playing an advisory role in setting district-wide Title I policy and programs. To support parents in this role, DPAC members have the opportunity to invite guest speakers or attend workshops and trainings relating to the needs of children.

### **When and where does it meet?**

DPAC meets monthly on every third Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Windows Cafeteria at the district office, 501 N. Dixon Street. A buffet dinner is served at 6:15 PM and childcare is provided. Creative games and crafts are available for children between the ages of two and ten years of age.

### **What does a typical meeting look like?**

As parents are having dinner together, relevant topics and information affecting children are shared and discussed. Some sample meeting topics might include: parent workshops offered to Title I schools, explanations of where Title I funds are spent, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and how it affects your school, local teacher/parent conferences, trainings for parents, and other topics that the group would like to address.

### **Why should I join DPAC?**

Joining is a great opportunity to become a parent leader with Portland Public Schools. You will be involved in your child's education and be an important advocate for all children within PPS. DPAC parents participate in workshops, set goals for parent involvement within the entire school district, and make needed recommendations to the District concerning matters relative to Title I students and families. If you're interested in becoming a member, please contact your school secretary.

