



Focus Group Facilitation Template

A focus group provides the opportunity for several people to get together in a confidential setting and it allows for structured evaluation that is intended to yield useful data. Schools and districts can facilitate focus groups as the main source of evaluating their Title I Parent Policy and Program; however, it would require that many focus group meetings be held to ensure all parents are given an opportunity to participate. Focus groups can also be used as supplemental evaluation to follow-up on the feedback that is received from surveys.

Start with an overview of the current Title I Parental Involvement Policy and Plan.

1. Think back to the beginning of the year, what programs would you like to see added to the parental involvement policy and plan in the future? Describe what you mean.
2. To what extent have you found the parent resource center useful? Describe areas of improvement that could be made.
3. Let's talk about the opportunities you have had to network with other parents throughout the school year. Name a few instances when you have been able to take advantage of parent networking.
4. Explain how those networking experiences have helped you and your children during this school year.
5. If anyone has had a similar experience or one that differs, please share.
6. Name some ways in which the school has been successful in helping you and your children meet academic goals and challenges throughout the year? Describe what you mean.
7. To what extent have you been able to be involved in the revision and planning process of writing your school's Title I plan and policy?
8. How can the school and district get more parents to participate in this process? Describe what you mean.
9. Think back to some of the conversations you have had with other parents and challenges you may have faced yourself. What are some of the top barriers that prevent parents from being able to participate in school functions, activities, and planning events?
10. Explain what the school can do, within reason, to address these barriers.