

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Board of Directors believes that durable and significant learning by a student is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the academy and the student's parents. Such a partnership means a mutual belief in and commitment to significant educational goals for a student, a plan for the means for accomplishing those goals, cooperation on developing and implementing solutions to problems that may be encountered, and continuing communication regarding the progress in accomplishing the goal(s) of:

- A. developing and implementing appropriate strategies for helping their child achieve the learning objectives that lead to accomplishing the learning outcomes;
- B. providing an academy and home environment which encourages learning and augments, at home, the learning experiences provided by the academy;
- C. establishing the learning outcomes for their child with the goal of developing a responsible, adult member of society;
- D. establishing and supporting a consistent and shared approach to child guidance and discipline;
- E. providing for the proper health, safety, and well-being for their child.

The Board through this policy directs the establishment of a parent involvement plan by which an academy-parent partnership can be established and provided to the parent or guardian of each child in the Academy. The plan must encompass parent participation, through meetings and other forms of communication. The Board directs the development of a parental involvement plan which may include the following strategies:

- A. An annual meeting held to inform first time parents of the Academy parent involvement plan. An invitation will be given to explain the Academy's commitment and the parent's right to be involved in the educational process of their child.
- B. Provide child's individual assessment results, reading results, progress reports, report cards, parent conferences.
- C. Provide a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the Academy, the form of assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. The Academy's discipline plan along with a tardy plan will be made available.
- D. Flexibly scheduled parent conferences and requested parent conferences, PTA/PTO meetings, parent involvement meetings will be available on the Academy web site and via e-mail.

- E. An Academy Newsletter informing parents about the parent involvement plan and other events at the school. This newsletter will also send a positive invitation to parents to participate in various activities while providing parents information at a glance about scheduled Academy meetings and activities.
- F. Meetings and brainstorming sessions will be held regularly and scheduled at least once monthly to provide parents the opportunity to share concerns and desires, to better improve the Academy.
- G. The Academy sends home a parent-student-teacher compact that outlines how parents and academy staff will share the responsibility for improved student achievement of their children. This compact shall be discussed at least annually at Academy meetings.
- H. A consistent Academy-wide effort is made to communicate regularly with parents. Teachers contact new students by mailing welcome notes. Home visits are provided for students by the Parent coordinator. Teachers schedule at least two student conferences annually to inform parents of student progress.
- I. Bi-weekly newsletters from teachers informing parents of upcoming Academy events and curriculum being taught.
- J. Teacher's make calls use e-mail and mail letters as needed to parents.
- K. Home language surveys are distributed annually to identify students for whom English is a second language, providing a means for developing individualized instructions when needed.
- L. Community involvement in the Academy is encouraged by continued positive partnerships throughout the community.
- M. An ongoing Reading tutorial program is offered throughout the school year during the day. After academy academic clubs have been established to provide students additional opportunities to develop skills.
- N. The faculty at Academy is actively involved in the PTA/PTO.
- O. Parents are encouraged to serve as chaperones for class field trips and other activities.
- P. Academy administration and staff provide test data and interpretation meetings that allow parents to ask questions.
- Q. Opportunity is provided for discussion consisting of parents, administration and staff meetings to discuss problems and find solutions for students having difficulties. A caseworker may be assigned for follow-up.

- R. Current and accurate announcements are placed on the Academy's marquee throughout the Academy.
- S. Parents are involved in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in planning review, and improvement of the Academy's Parental Involvement Plan, by meeting with parents and forming an advisory council.

Relations with Parents

The Board feels that it is the parents who have the ultimate responsibility for their children's behavior. During school hours, the Board, through its designated administrators, recognizes the responsibility to monitor students' behavior and, as with academic matters, the importance of cooperation between the Academy and the parents in matters relating to conduct.

For the benefit of the child, the Board believes that parents have a responsibility to encourage their child's career in the Academy by:

- A. supporting the Academy in requiring their child observe all Academy rules and regulations, and by accepting their own responsibility for their child's willful in-school behavior;
- B sending their children to school with proper attention to his/her health, personal cleanliness, and dress;
- C. maintaining an active interest in their child's daily work and making it possible for him/her to complete assigned homework by providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study;
- D. reading all communications from the Academy, signing, and returning them promptly when required;
- E. cooperating with the Academy in attending conferences set up for the exchange of information of their child's progress in school.

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Date Approved: 3/

Parent Participation in Title I Programs

In accordance with the requirements of Section 1118 (b) – (h) of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), all schools receiving Title I, Part A funds are required to develop a School Parental Involvement Policy designed and implemented in consultation with parents of the students being served.

The Chief Administrative Officer shall ensure that the Title I plan contains a written statement of guidelines which has been developed with, approved by, and distributed to parents of participating students. **The guidelines shall describe how:**

- A. the Academy expects the parents to be involved in the program, including their participation in the development of the plan;
- B. meetings will be conducted with parents including provisions for flexible scheduling and whatever assistance the public school academy may be able to provide parents in order to better ensure their attendance at meetings, and for providing information in a language that parents can understand;
- C. parents will be involved in the planning, review and improvement of the schoolwide programs;
- D. information concerning Academy performance profiles and their child's individual performance will be communicated to parents in a timely manner;
- E. the Academy will all parents a description and explanation of the curriculum in use in the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- F. the Academy will provide parents' opportunities to formulate suggestions, interact and share experiences with other parents, and participate appropriately in decision-making about the Title I program. and revisions in the schoolwide plan as requested by parents;
- G. if the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, ensure that parent comments on the plan will be accepted and reviewed before the plan is made adopted by the Academy;
- H. parents will be assisted in providing help to their children in achieving the objectives of the program with use of the Parent-School Compact by such means as monitoring attendance and making appropriate decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time;

- I. the Academy will receive coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist the Academy in developing effective parental participation activities to improve academic achievement;
- J. an annual evaluation of the parental involvement plan will be conducted with parents, identifying any barriers to greater parental involvement (such as limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of migratory children, etc.) and devising strategies to improve parental involvement in a language that parents can understand;
- K. the parental involvement plan will be coordinated with community programs to increase parental involvement;
- L. other activities will be conducted to support parental involvement activities as appropriate to the plan, per parent request, and State or Federal requirements;

The Chief Administrative Officer shall also assure that the Academy, with parental participation, develops a parental involvement plan which:

- A. convenes an annual meeting at a convenient time, to which parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation in Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved the school's participation in Title I.
- B. devises a flexible meeting schedule and provides assistance to encourage parental involvement, such as child care, transportation, home visits, interpreter services as needed, or similar aid;
- C. involves parents in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the development, review and improvement of the Title I program including parent involvement activities, improvement of the school parental involvement policy, and the joint development of the school wide program plan;
- D. provides participating students' parents with:
 - a. timely responses to parental questions, concerns, and recommendations about Title I programs;
 - b. a review and explanation of the curriculum in use at the Academy, the means of assessment, and the proficiency levels students are expected to achieve and maintain;
 - c. opportunities and meetings to formulate suggestions, interact and share experiences with other parents, make suggestions and receive responses regarding their student's education, and participate appropriately in the decision-making about the Title I program and revisions in the schoolwide plan as requested by parents;

- E. provides an opportunity for parent input to determine level of parent satisfaction and submit parent comments on the schoolwide plan;
- F. develops jointly with parents, a Parent-School Compact which outlines the shared responsibilities of the Academy staff, the parents, and the students for high student academic achievement including:
 - a. how the Academy will provide a high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the State's student academic achievement standards;
 - b. ways parents can support their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom; participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
 - c. a schedule of when the Academy will hold twice-annual parent-teacher conferences, at which time the Parent-School Compact and the student's Personalized Student Achievement Plan will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement;
 - d. how the Academy will provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress;
 - e. how the Academy will provide reasonable parent access to staff, and opportunities to observe and participate in classroom activities;
- G. describes how the Academy will provide assistance to parents of children in understanding topics such as the state's academic content standards, the state's student achievement standards, the state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, the requirements of Title I Part A, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators;
- H. describes how the Academy will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve student achievement, such as literacy training; use technology to foster parental involvement; support preschool parental involvement in the education of young children;
- I. describes how the Academy will educate and guide all staff in the value and the utility of parents' contributions; educators should also receive guidance in effective, easy to implement, parent communication techniques, and ways to build relationships and build ties between parents and the school;
- J. describes how the Academy parental involvement plan will be coordinated with community programs, such as HeadStart, Great Start Readiness Programs, Girl Scouts,

Boy Scouts, Grand Blanc Academy Parent Teacher Organization, Nurturing Parenting Program, Love & Logic, and local universities;

- K. provides full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children including providing information and school reports in a format and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand in carrying out parental involvement policy in the school.