

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, PTO meetings, parent involvement meetings will be available on the Academy website and via email.
- 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 scheduled to provide parents opportunities 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. The Academy has launched a home reading program. Books are provided to encourage students to read. Student participation in the program is given Academy wide recognition.
- I. 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 **preschool** students. Teachers schedule at least **four** student conferences annually to inform parents of student progress.
- J. Weekly newsletters from teachers informing parents of upcoming Academy events and curriculum being taught.
- K. Folders will be sent home each week to keep parents abreast of progress and maintain open lines of communication. In addition, teachers may make calls, use email and mail letters as needed to parents, to maintain open communication.
- L. 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.
- M. Community involvement in the Academy is encouraged by continued positive partnership throughout the community.
- N. An ongoing Reading tutorial program is offered throughout the school year during the day.
- O. The faculty representative at the Academy is actively involved in PTO.
- P. The students perform at various functions throughout the community.
- Q. Parents are encouraged to serve as chaperones for class field trips and other activities.
- R. Academy administration and staff provide test data and interpretation meetings that allow parents to ask questions.
- S. Opportunity is provided for discussion consisting of parents, administration and staff meetings to discuss problems and find solutions for students having difficulties. A caseworker is assigned for follow-up.
- T. A parenting resource center has been established.
- U. Current and accurate announcements are placed throughout the Academy.
- V. 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.