

Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2024-2025 School Joseph W. Grier Academy

I. Parent and Family Engagement Policy

A. The following is a list of (SLT) School Leadership Team members involved in revising the Parent and Family Engagement Policy: B. Wilson/ Principal, M. Gray, Assistant Principal, Y. Galloway, Dean of Students, R. Hill, Parent- Family Advocate, A. Williams/3-5 MCL, C. Gregory/K-2 Master Teacher, Y. Foxx and S. Absiekong/ K-2 Rep, S. Brunston/3-5 Rep, S. Hulen/ Specialized services.

B. Briefly describe the process your school used to:

SIT as Grier Academy core advisory team assumed the responsibility of revising this policy. SLT used CMS' Title I Parent Engagement Guide to develop this policy. The Parent and Family Engagement Policy Draft is presented to parents during the Title I Curriculum Meeting for input, feedback, and suggestions.

II. Annual Information Meeting

The principal, accompanied by the assistant principal, Title 1 Compliance Coordinator, and interpreter conducts an annual Title I Briefing during our first Curriculum Night/Title I Meeting in September 2024. During this meeting the principal will explain parent's right to know the qualifications of their child's teacher, highly qualified teacher status; the school's Title I budget usage; school data, and solicit input into the (SIP) School Improvement Plan. The Principal will discuss the Parent and Family Engagement policy, the importance of the Learning Compact, encourages parent participation at all levels, summarizes parent involvement and leadership opportunities, volunteer registration requirements and solicits feedback, by including a Family Engagement Policy Survey.

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III. Flexible meeting times

Teachers, administrators, and SIT seek input from parents regarding flexible times to schedule conferences, parent events, and parent involvement opportunities. Grier Academy makes adjustments accordingly to accommodate parents to include scheduling evening/morning events, and providing follow-up information. Flexible time availability is communicated by teachers' notes, telephone calls, Agendas, Newsletters, and Connect-Ed. We aim to have events on the same day of the week as to not interfere with other middle and high school activities. We ensure we have our SIT meetings on Wednesdays at 4pm and post all information on our school website.

IV. Title I Part A Planning

SIT will consist of parent representatives to ensure ongoing parent involvement in the planning, review, and improvement of our school improvement plan. We will have all stakeholders during each part of the process.

V. Parent Information and Opportunities

- A. Describe how you will provide parents and families with the following:
 - 1. Publicize, and send school progress reports home.
 - 2. Send Mid-quarter progress reports home.
 - 3. Include parents in student recognition assemblies.
 - 4. Conduct monthly SIT meetings; publicize meeting date/time school wide via flyers, marquee display, Connect Ed, E-mail.
 - 5. Continue administrator's open door policy, and provide two-way communication via weekly newsletters, Curriculum Night and other parent event surveys.
 - 6. Encourage parents to visit, observe, and volunteer in the classroom with the understanding that during instruction/teachers may not be interrupted.
 - 7. Notify parents formally by a letter from the principal, if a teacher who is not Highly Qualified will be teaching for four or more weeks.
 - 8. Encourage parents to schedule teacher conferences in advance to ensure that adequate time is allocated to appropriately address parent's concerns. Appointments can be made by calling the school, text, or E-mails.

VI. School-Family Compact

A. Present and explain School-Parent Compact during Open House, Curriculum Nights, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and other parent events. Utilize interpreters, and translated documents to accommodate parents with language barriers. Assistance will be provided as necessary for parents with disabilities.

VII. Building Parent and Family Engagement Capacity

- A. Provide assistance to parents in understanding performance standards, assessments, Title I, monitoring progress, and participating in decisions relating to their child's education by conducting Annual Title I Briefings, by informing parents of available CMS resources, by conducting required 1st quarter face-to-face Parent/Teacher Conferences, 3rd quarter face-to-face Student Led Parent Conferences and by providing administrator's conferences when deemed necessary.
- Provide materials in the media center to support parents in working with their children at home. Provide EOG Testing information. Provide literacy, math, computer skills, and homework training during quarterly family curriculum nights. Provide interpreters, and translated materials. Educate teachers and staff on how to work effectively with parents, provide feedback from volunteer and community partnerships. Coordinate and integrate appropriate parental involvement activities through SIT and room parents.
- Develop Monthly grade-level newsletters that explain new skills students will be learning, and examples of how parents can work with their child/children at home in the development and reinforcement of those skills.
- Encourage teachers to make an initial positive communication call to parents of newly assigned students within one week.

VIII. English Learners and Disabled Parents and Families

A. Provide for and strongly encourage participation of parents with limited English proficiency in all parent activities and parent leadership positions by the use of interpreters, and translated documents. Provide for parents with physical disabilities by having easy access/entry into the building via handicap parking in close proximity to the main entrance; provide wheelchair and assistance as needed.

IX. Parent/Family Requests

A. Provide full disclosure of Title I funds allocations as agreed upon by SIT consisting of parent representatives. Provide support for school wide parental involvement activities requested by parents through collaboration with SIT, Administrative and Support Teams. Decide on a plan of action regarding other parent requests/feedback as determined by the principal.

X. Annual Evaluation

A. Conduct parent surveys during quarterly curriculum nights. Conducts semi-annual and annual SIP reviews. Analyze data to identify strengths to be sustained and weaknesses to improve upon.

XI. Other Parent and Family Engagement Practices (School may include the following).

Only describe the ones you choose to implement

Develop room parent volunteers into parent involvement advocates to attract other parents by establishing and cultivating strong partner relationships. 1. Continue Character Education during the Cardinal Conventions (Character Recognition Assembly).