

Prep Charter High School Parental Involvement Policy

Part I. General Expectations

Each school in its School Parental Policy must establish the school's expectations for parental involvement. [Section 1118 (a)(2), ESEA]

The Preparatory Charter High School of Math, Sciences, Technology, and Careers (hereafter known as Prep Charter) agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Prep Charter will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents, consistent with the section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Title I, Part A, programs. Those programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents/guardians of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, Prep Charter will work to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1119(b) of the ESEA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118 (d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements to the extent practicable, Prep Charter will provide full opportunities for participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- Prep Charter will involve parents of children served in Title I, Part A in decisions about how the one percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the school for parent-related activities or other school-related activities as agreed upon between the parents and the school administration.
- Prep Charter will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring. . .

- (a) that parents play an integral role in assisting in their child's learning;*
- (b) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (c) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- (d) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*

Prep Charter will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in Pennsylvania.

Part II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICTWIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

[NOTE: The Prep Charter Parental Involvement Policy must include a description of how the school will implement or accomplish each of the following components. {Section 1118 (a)(2), ESEA} Regardless of the format Prep Charter chooses to use, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy the statutory requirements.]

1. Prep Charter will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school wide parental involvement plan under section 112 of the ESEA:
 - a. Extend an invitation to parents to attend a planning meeting.
 - b. Organize a committee comprised of parent/guardian volunteers who attend the planning meeting, faculty, staff, and administration.
 - c. Invite a representative of the Pennsylvania Parental Information and Resource Center to meet with the committee, as well as provide professional development for the faculty.
 - d. Reach out to the existing parents' organization (CPAC) for support and include them in conversations related to the school wide parental involvement plan.
2. Prep Charter will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - a. Extend an invitation to parents to attend a planning meeting.
 - b. Include parent/guardian volunteers on the strategic planning committee
 - c. Provide training as needed for volunteers
3. Prep Charter will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve academic achievement and school performance:
 - a. Maintain ongoing school-to-home communication, including but not limited to letters, newsletters, calendars, Edline, theprepcharterschool.org, progress reports, report cards, Back-to-School Nights, Report Card Conference Nights, Dual Enrollment Orientation Events, Financial Aid Training Events, Open Houses, CPAC meetings, commencements, sporting events, outdoor signage, and advertisements.
 - b. Encourage parents/guardians to attend school events such as athletic competitions, talent shows, fashion shows, and other events that showcase Prep Charter students.
4. Prep Charter will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I, Part A with parental involvement strategies using any state or federal programs available to students in grades nine through twelve.
5. Prep Charter will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in order to assess its impact on family engagement at Prep Charter High School. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). Prep Charter will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, with the involvement of parents, its parental involvement policies.

6. Evaluations will be conducted using the annual parent survey conducted by the School District of Philadelphia, surveys conducted by Prep Charter that are distributed with the third marking period report cards, and surveys conducted online through our parents' organization website. There will be no costs for the surveys.

1. Prep Charter will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities described below:
 - a. Prep Charter will provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as

- 1) Pennsylvania's Academic Standards
 - 2) Pennsylvania's Core Content Subjects
 - 3) Pennsylvania and local academic assessments, including alternate assessments
 - 4) The requirements of Title I, Part A
 - 5) Methods for monitoring student progress, including but not limited to dissemination of progress reports, report cards, posting of grades online at Edline, teacher phone calls and emails home
 - 6) How to work successfully with their children's educators to ensure academic success.
- b. Prep Charter will, with assistance, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology to foster parent involvement
 - c. Prep Charter will, with assistance, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, administrators, and other staff members in successful methods to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between Prep Charter and its parents by
 - 1) Scheduling training for faculty and staff from the State Parent Involvement Office
 - 2) Providing training and support for parents/guardians to access grades on Edline, understand the content of Progress Reports, Report Cards, and Transcripts
 - 3) Requiring teachers to submit Parent Contact Logs at the end of each marking period to the principal
 - d. Prep Charter will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement and activities using any programs available for students in grades nine through twelve that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
 - e. Prep Charter will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents/guardians of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language that the parents can understand:
 - 1) Using the home language survey, determine the students who should take the ACCESS assessment and identify those who are eligible for ELL support.
 - 2) Survey those students to determine if school information should be sent home in an alternative format.
 - 3) Provide translators for parent conferences, as needed and practicable.

PART III. SCHOOL WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: Prep Charter's Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement at Prep Charter to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

1. Involving parents/guardians in the development of training for teachers, administrators, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;

2. Providing the necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
3. Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
4. Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
5. Arranging school meetings at a variety of times or conducting in-home conferences between teachers and other educators, who work directly with participating students, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation their children's education;
6. Adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
7. Establishing a parent advisory council to provide input on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
8. Developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities;
9. Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118, as parents/guardians may request.

PART IV. ADOPTION

This Prep Charter School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents as evidenced by _____.

The school will distribute this policy to all parents on or before April 30, 2017, and on or before October 1 in subsequent school years.

Signature of Principal Date