

# **Title I School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

## **Girls Academic Leadership Academy, Dr. Michelle King School for STEM**

The Girls Academic Leadership Academy, Dr. Michelle King School for STEM (GALA) has developed a written Title I parent and family engagement policy with input from Title I parents. As part of our monthly meetings and WASC ongoing evaluation of learning, our parents and community partners have given input to our policy. It has distributed the policy to parents of Title I students through monthly Coffee with the Principal meetings, school orientation meetings and email. The policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family requirements:

### **Section I: Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program**

To involve parents in the Title I program at GALA, the following practices have been established:

- The school convenes an annual meeting to inform parents and family members of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program. This occurs annually at our orientation.
- The school offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
- The school involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I programs and the Title I parental involvement policy. Our initial meeting is during orientation prior to the school year, and we continually communicate through meetings, surveys and coffee with the Principal.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs. A weekly newsletter from the principal and uploads on our website includes information on programming.
- The school provides parents of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the school, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. The school curriculum and assessments are included on our website, in weekly communications, and during monthly meetings.
- If requested by parents of Title I students, the school provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

### **Section II: Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

GALA distributes to parents of Title I students a school-parent compact. The compact, which has been jointly developed with parents and approved by them, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the school and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- The school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
- The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities

## **Building Capacity for Involvement**

GALA engages Title I parents and family members in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices:

- The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children. Several meetings a year are devoted to educating parents about state standards, A-G requirements, college requirements and graduation standards.
- The school provides Title I parents and family members with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement. Through annual orientation and grade level meetings as well as Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) meetings, parents are informed of ways to help their student succeed and thrive.
- With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent and family contributions, and in how to work with parents as equal partners. Title I parents are invited to become part of the parent organization to contribute to the school site and help in any way they are able.
- The school coordinates and integrates the Title I parent and family engagement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as Parent and Family Centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. A room was recently designated as a parent center and has become a hub of activity for information sharing and parent educational activities. Parent meetings are held monthly.
- The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents and family members in a format and language that they understand. The predominant home language at school is English, and secondarily Spanish. All newsletters and informational content are translated to Spanish. Google translate is used for the newsletter to help other parents with translation.
- The school provides support for parent and family involvement activities requested by Title I parents.

## **Accessibility**

GALA provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.

This policy was adopted by \_\_\_\_\_ GALA \_\_\_\_\_ School on \_\_12/8/2020\_\_\_\_\_ date and will be in effect for the entire school year. It has been distributed to parents on \_\_12/13/2020\_\_\_\_\_ date.