



## **Wilmington Preparatory Academy Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

Wilmington Preparatory Academy believes that the holistic development and education of students is a shared responsibility between the home and school. Parental involvement plays an integral role in students' academic achievement and success. Studies show that when parents are involved in education, children do better in school and schools improve. In keeping with this core belief and in compliance with Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Wilmington Preparatory Academy establishes the following parent and family engagement policy:

- To ensure parents are actively involved; the school will invite all parents to a parent orientation, which is an open meeting that is conducted at the beginning of the school year, at a convenient time. The purpose of this meeting is to inform them of all programs available at the school, and the right of parents to be involved.
- The school will schedule regular meetings and parent conferences with flexible dates and times that are convenient for parents to attend. Meetings dates and times will be advertised well in advance of the meetings. Sign-Up sheets will be used to document meetings.
- At the beginning of each school year the school will coordinate specially designed meetings where parents and family members will actively participate in the development of the Title 1, Part A program, as well as the School Improvement Plan. With the parents' involvement, both the Title 1, Part A program and the School Improvement Plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis for revisions, and an annual evaluation will be conducted at the end of the school year.
- The school will provide parents with timely information about the Title I, Part A program; describing and explaining the curriculum used at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet via monthly newsletters, curriculum nights, as well as parent/teacher conferences.
- The school will provide each parent with the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the Parent/Student Handbook. Both the Parent/Student Handbook and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be distributed at the beginning of the school year.

- The school will jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the State Academic Achievement Standards. The school-parent compact will be reviewed with stakeholders quarterly for revisions, and an annual evaluation will be conducted at the end of each school year.
- The school will provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity within the school in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities.
- The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement. Specifically, the school will provide special training for parent to understand the State's academic content standards. In addition, the Academy will host Curriculum Nights, Study Islands Explosion, and Parent Oriented Class Projects.
- The school's administration and teachers will encourage parents to participate in school activities which include, but not limited to: Family Nights, Open House, Fall Festival, Field Trips, Meet and Greet, Talent Shows, Black History Month and Christmas programs, Sporting Events, Holiday Parades, and Special events for Dads, Moms, and Grandparents.
- The school will invite parent representatives to serve on the Board of Directors.
- The school will make every attempt to communicate with parents in a language they use and understand. An interpreter will be used to better communicate with Limited English Proficient and disabled parents.
- The school in conjunction with parents and family members will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the school and assisting students to meet the school's academic standards. In an effort to bolster greater participation by parents; particularly those who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, the school will scheduled meetings at the most convenient for those parents, and will provide two-way transportation. The school will ensure that all meeting locations and mode of transportations are handicap accessible. Meals will be serve at each meeting. The school will also utilize its Spanish teacher to provide Spanish/English translation at meetings. In

addition, all materials will be distributed in both English and Spanish, and staff members will be on hand to assist those with limited literacy. Furthermore, the school will foster the needs of parent and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engagement with school personnel and teachers by hosting quarterly parent/teacher conferences, distributing monthly newsletter, as well as utilizing daily communication folders for younger grades, and Remind.com for upper classmen. The school will also engage parents and family members in Parent oriented class projects and weekly homework assignments. To support successful school and family interactions the school will host bi-annual Family Nights, an annual Grandparents Day celebration, International festival, Talent shows, as well as Donuts with Dad and Awards Assemblies. Throughout the school year staff members will place emphasis on building and maintaining a positive school/community relationship.

- The school will coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies in the Title I program, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with parental engagement strategies established in other federal, state, and local laws and programs.
- The school 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 their child's learning*

*(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's education at school*

*(C) that parents are full partners in their children's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their children*

*(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1116 of the ESSA.*

Wilmington Preparatory Academy will continue to work diligently to build and sustain a positive and effective parental involvement program. We believe that such partnership will improve student academic achievement, and yield success.