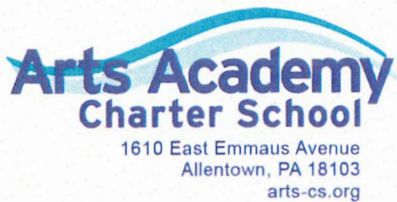


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Board Policy 6.6

Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Title 1 Requirements

The Arts Academy Charter Middle School (the “Charter School”) believes that strong partnerships between parents, families, and the school community are fundamental to the success of its students. The Charter School’s comprehensive Parent and Family Engagement Policy is designed to ensure compliance with the requirements outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116, while fostering meaningful involvement of parents and family members in the education process.

Parents and family members will be invited to participate in focus groups, advisory committees, and parent-teacher association meetings to provide input on the development and review of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The Charter School will also distribute surveys to gather feedback on the effectiveness of its policy and identify areas for improvement. Additionally, a committee comprising parents, teachers, administrators, and community members will review the policy annually to ensure it aligns with the evolving needs of our school community.

The Charter School will convene an annual meeting, scheduled at a time convenient for parents and family members of participating children. Invitations to the meeting will be sent out well in advance via multiple channels, including email and/or postal mail, and phone calls. To ensure accessibility for all families, interpreters and translation services will be available for non-English speaking parents. The meeting agenda will include presentations on Title I program requirements, parent rights, and opportunities for involvement.

Recognizing the diverse schedules of its parents and family members, the Charter School will offer a flexible meeting schedule throughout the academic year. In addition to the annual meeting, regular parent meetings will be scheduled at various times and locations, including virtual options, to accommodate different needs and preferences.

The Charter School is committed to fostering ongoing parent involvement in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program and the Parent and Family Engagement Program. Parent representatives will be included in decision-making committees and school improvement teams, ensuring continuous parent input in program planning and evaluation. The Charter School will establish feedback

mechanisms which may include suggestion boxes, online forums, and parent surveys to gather continuous input from parents.

Timely communication is essential for keeping parents informed about the Title I program and opportunities for involvement. Information will be disseminated through multiple channels, which may include newsletters, the school website, automated phone calls, and various social media platforms. The Charter School will provide regular updates on program changes, upcoming events, and opportunities for involvement via email and/or postal mail, ensuring information is provided in clear, concise language with translations available for non-English speaking families.

The Charter School will hold parent information sessions to provide detailed explanations of the curriculum used at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. Curriculum materials, sample assessments, and student achievement data will be made available to parents upon request, and parent-teacher conferences will include discussions on curriculum alignment, student progress, and strategies for supporting learning at home.

Regular parent forums will be scheduled to provide a platform for parents to voice their concerns, suggestions, and feedback. Parent advisory groups will be established to address specific areas of concern, such as curriculum development, school safety, and student support services. School administrators will respond to parent suggestions and concerns in a timely manner, providing follow-up actions and updates as appropriate.

In accordance with ESSA requirements, parent representatives will be actively involved in the development of the schoolwide program plan. They will collaborate with school staff and community partners to develop goals, strategies, and action plans, with regular meetings held to review progress, assess program effectiveness, and make adjustments based on parent input and student needs. The schoolwide program plan will be made available to parents for review and feedback, with opportunities for input through surveys and focus groups.

The Charter School's school-parent compact will be jointly developed with parents and family members, outlining shared responsibilities for improved student academic achievement and partnership building. Parent representatives will participate in focus groups, surveys, and committee meetings to ensure the compact reflects the needs and priorities of our school community. The compact will be reviewed annually by parents and school staff to ensure relevance and effectiveness in supporting student achievement, with agreements distributed to parents for review and feedback.

To support parents and family members in understanding challenging State academic standards, assessments, and monitoring student progress, the Charter School will offer parent workshops and information sessions. These sessions will provide guidance on

understanding state academic standards, assessment requirements, and strategies for monitoring student progress. Resource materials, including guides, brochures, and online tutorials, will be provided to parents to support their understanding of academic standards and assessments. Teachers and school staff will be available to meet with parents individually to discuss their child's progress, assessment results, and strategies for academic support.

The Charter School is committed to providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement. Parent workshops on literacy, numeracy, and technology will be offered throughout the year to enhance parental skills in supporting student learning. Informational materials on copyright piracy and responsible technology use will be distributed to parents to promote awareness and responsible behavior. Parent training sessions will be tailored to the needs and interests of the parent community, with topics selected based on parent feedback and input.

The Charter School will provide training opportunities for teachers and staff to enhance their understanding of the value and importance of parent involvement. Staff training sessions will focus on effective communication strategies, cultural competence, and building partnerships with parents and family members. Teachers and staff will receive ongoing support and resources to implement parent involvement initiatives in their classrooms and school community.

The Charter School will prioritize partnerships with other educational institutions to provide seamless transitions and continuity of services for families. Parent engagement activities will be integrated with existing school programs and initiatives, such as literacy nights, family workshops, and community events. Partnerships will be established to provide additional support services and resources for families in need.

Information will be provided in multiple formats which may include printed handouts, digital newsletters, and audio-visual presentations, to accommodate diverse preferences and needs. Translations and interpretation services will be available for parents with limited English proficiency, ensuring equitable access to information and resources. Information will be disseminated through culturally sensitive channels and platforms to reach all segments of the parent and family community.

Efforts will be made to remove barriers to participation for parents and family members with diverse backgrounds and needs. Accommodations such as transportation assistance, childcare services, and accessible meeting venues will be provided upon request to facilitate participation. Outreach efforts will target underserved and marginalized populations, including parents of students with disabilities, English language learners, and migrant families, to ensure their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.

By implementing these strategies and initiatives, the Charter School is committed to fostering a culture of collaboration, communication, and partnership between the school, parents, and families, ultimately supporting the academic success and well-being of all students..

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENTS.