

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY
2018-2019

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 Northwood Academy Charter School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements

- Northwood Academy Charter School will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools, consistent with 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 of participating children.
- Consistent with section 118, Northwood Academy Charter School will ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of Section 118 (b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with Section 118 (d) of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Northwood Academy will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section III of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 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 schools for parent-related activities or other school-related activity as agreed upon between the parents and the school administration.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I schools will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, 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 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.*

The school will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State.

Part II DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

(NOTE: The school 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 the school chooses to use, a description of each of the following components below must be included in order to satisfy statutory requirements.)

1. Northwood Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school-wide parental involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA:

Actions:

- Kindergarten Orientation Meeting
- Board Meetings
- Fall Planning Sessions
- Parent Information and Feedback Sessions
- Application Nights to complement SDP policies and procedures
- Individual High School Counseling Meeting (as needed)

2. Northwood Academy will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:

Actions:

- Board Meetings
- Survey
- Planning Committee (Parent Core Organization Committee and Compact Representatives Committee)
- Requests for feedback on issues
- Responses from emails

3. The school will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

Actions:

- Back to School Night
- Report Card Conferences
- Interim Reports
- PSSA requests
- Math/Literacy/STEM Nights
- Title I Information Sessions
- Tier Time updates
- I.E.P. Conferences
- Home Visits by the Counselor and Admin.
- School Reach Phone System
- Technology Information Sessions
- Family events
- Technology Coordinator
- Community Coordinator
- Updating of Social Media
- Technical Equipment and Adequate Facilities

4. Northwood Academy will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Title I Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

Actions:

- CORA Services- After School Support Program
- CORA Student Assistance Program- offers families counseling, referral, assessment and family support

5. Northwood Academy 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 in Title I, Part A schools. 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). Northwood Academy Charter School 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 (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

Actions:

- Annual Title I meeting
- Survey results
- Interpreter available as needed
- Regular communication through weekly reminders including Spanish version
- Notification of trip and extracurricular opportunities including Spanish version
- Annual Parent Representative (Compact) meeting

A. Northwood Academy, will provide assistance to parents, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

- the State's academic content standards;
- the State's student academic achievement standards;
- the State and local academic assessments including alternative assessments;
- the requirements of Title I, Part A;
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators

Activities in School Plan:

- Back to School Night
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- Notes/Emails from Staff
- Information Sessions for Parents
- Report Card Conferences
- I.E.P. Conferences and updates
- Application Nights
- Messages on website
- Phone Calls from school
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- School Reach
- Service Learning
- Parent Core Organization events

B. Northwood Academy will, with assistance, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement by:

Activities in School Plan:

- An Instructional Based Principal and two Assistant Principals for parents to access
- A Safety Net Team (which includes the Director of Student Services, Assistant Principals, and School Counselor)

- Access to Parental Resources
- Ongoing communication with teachers and staff
- Information Sessions for parents

C. Northwood Academy will, with assistance, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Professional Development Meetings
- Professional Learning Committee Meetings
- Grade Group Meetings
- Instructional Support Meetings
- Administrative Meetings
- Professional Conferences/Development

D. Northwood will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- CORA (coordinates these activities)
- Application Nights
- Related service agencies including behavioral, occupation and speech services

E. Northwood Academy will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent-programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that the parents can understand:

Activities in School Plan:

- Letters to Parents
- Wednesday Reminders "Bulldog Blasts"
- Website Notices
- Facebook/Twitter
- Emails
- School Reach- automated schoolwide phone system
- Phone Calls

Part III SCHOOL WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The School'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 in the school and school system to support their children's achievement, such as the following discretionary activities listed under Section 1118(e) of the ESEA:

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;
- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school; in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a Parent Core Organization to provide input on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request.

Part IV ADOPTION

Northwood Academy Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents as evidenced by Participation in School Plan.

The school will distribute this policy to all parents on or before _____

_____ Signature of Principal

_____ Date