

# Venture Academy

## Title I Parent Involvement Policy

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## Parent Compact

Venture Academy recognizes the vital positive impact that parental involvement in their child's academic work has on student achievement.

The following Parent Involvement Policy—created in consultation with parents, and in conjunction with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)—sets forth the parameters and conditions for parental involvement in the educational programs at Venture Academy which are supported in part by Title I program funds.

Venture Academy shall:

- convene an *annual meeting* to explain the Title I program to parents and inform them of their opportunity to be involved in the program;
- be flexible in scheduling meetings to meet parents' needs. Title I funds may be used to pay *related expenses* such as child care, transportation or home visits;
- involve parents, in an organized, ongoing and timely way, in *planning, reviewing, and improving (including dissenting views)* the school's programs supported in part by Title I funds;
- provide *timely information* about its programs to parents; describe the curricula, the student assessments and proficiency levels students are expected to meet; provide opportunities for regular meetings, such as SEP Conferences, where parents can provide input, and respond promptly to parent suggestions.

In order to build capacity for involvement, the Venture Academy staff will provide assistance to parents in such areas as understanding the State's content standards and student performance standards and other associated assessments.

Venture staff members will also provide parents with information as to how they can work with staff to improve the performance of their children and consult with teachers as to how they can participate in decisions relating to the education of their children. This information will be shared at the annual meeting mentioned as well as in newsletters and on the web site.

Venture Academy will provide additional materials and trainings to help parents work with their children to improve achievement. Materials will be distributed by such methods as e-mail, written notices, and/or handbooks.

Venture Academy will ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities, is sent to the home of participating children in the language used in such homes. The Academy will also provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency or with disabilities, including providing information and school profiles in a language and format that parents understand.

The attached compact, developed with input from parents, will be distributed to all participating families as a means of clarifying basic expectations of the school and the families it serves.

# Parent/School Compact

The staff members at Venture Academy, and the parents of the students participating in programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), understand that this compact outlines how the parents, the school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement including meeting the State's high academic standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the school year 2009-2010.

## Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Make certain my child attends school regularly and on time.
- See that my child is well-rested and has breakfast each day.
- Set aside a specific time and place for homework, assisting as necessary.
- Attend at least two conferences and communicate regularly with my child's teacher to ensure his/her academic success.
- Support the school and staff in maintaining proper discipline.
- Read with my child.
- Encourage positive attitudes toward school.
- Volunteer in my child's classroom as appropriate.
- Review information and work sent home and respond as necessary.

## Student Responsibilities

- Attend school regularly and on time
- Complete assignments and homework.
- Bring homework and supplies to school each day.
- Work to the best of my ability.
- Work cooperatively with classmates, teachers and staff.
- Respect myself, other people, and my school.
- Follow all school rules.
- Accept responsibility for my own actions.

## Teacher and School Leadership Responsibilities

- Hold expectations high for all students, believing that all students can learn.
- Provide high-quality instruction, including active pedagogy as used by Expeditionary Learning Schools, in a supportive and non-threatening environment.
- Provide meaningful homework.
- Communicate regularly with my students and their families through conferences, notes, phone calls, etc.
- Provide opportunities for parents to assist in the classroom in meaningful ways and to observe classroom activities.

The School Director will:

- Provide an equitable learning environment for all children.
- Encourage the staff to provide parents with information about the total school program.
- Encourage the staff to provide avenues for positive and meaningful parent involvement.