

 ICKEY LELAND COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACADEM

 Achieving Success Through Leadership

DAMEION CROOK, PRINCIPAL 1700 Greg St. HOUSTON, TEXAS 77020 PHONE: 713-226-2668 · FAX: 713-226-2680 YMCPA.ORG



Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Mickey Leland College Preparatory Academy for Young Men is committed to the education of the children in our community. We feel parent involvement is an essential piece in ensuring that our students are successful in school. We believe that when parents are more involved in the academic process, school becomes more of a priority for their children. Mickey Leland College Preparatory Academy's motto is Achieving Success through Leadership. This expression is not only intended to be utilized within our school, but is something we hope resonates in our community. It is our mission to produce a community of life-long learners. It is our pledge to maintain a good line of communication from school to homes and our goal to provide ample opportunities for parental involvement throughout each school year.

Title I regulations require that each school served under Title I jointly develop with and distribute to parents of participating children, a written parental involvement policy agreed on by the parents that describes the requirements outlined in Title I law.

A. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

Our school holds an official State of the School Address by the end of September each school year to review with parents Title I School requirements and the School Parent Compact by the Title I Coordinator. In addition, the principal gives parents an update on school test data, adequate yearly progress status, and also facilitates a review of the school's improvement plan and the goals for the new school year.

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

Parents are invited to participate in a variety of meetings and activities over the course of the school year. An Open House is held in September to provide parents the opportunity to formally visit their son's classroom to become better informed about The Parent Resource center is located in the front office and on our school website; ymcpa.org. The school also makes available laptop computers for parents to access the parent portal program and monitor their child's progress. As well as, to research a variety of topics of their choice, that will assist with their student's academic achievement. In order to meet the needs of our diverse group of parents, formal trainings are held upon request and workshops scheduled throughout the year are guided by a parent input and survey data and vary in date and time. Childcare is offered on site for these

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events. In cases in which transportation is a barrier for a parent to become involved in our school, the Administrative Team make special arrangements to link that parent to needed resources and events; if the members of the faculty and staff cannot assist directly.

Due to the feverish and varying schedules of our school family, efforts will be and are made to provide training opportunities to parents via links on our school website making information accessible twenty four hours a day.

Parents will be invited to participate in a parent-teacher conference at least twice a year to discuss their child's progress. Teachers may receive parents in the morning, during the school day and/or afterschool to accommodate as many parents as possible.

3. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy;

Our school annually invites parents to participate in review and revision meetings to examine and discuss our School Improvement Plan and Parent Involvement Policy. The school's parent council and PTO Executive Board consistently reviews school policy in an organized, ongoing and timely way. An organized PTO has been established in our school to create a forum for parental input and involvement. Our PTO affiliation connects our school to parental involvement resources at the state and national level.

4. Provide parents of participating children timely information about programs under this part; descriptions and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any suggestions as soon as practically possible.

Our school communicates with parents often the state's curricular and assessment expectations, school wide requirements in relation to the delivery of instruction, the techniques utilized to evaluate student work, and individual classroom rituals and routines pertinent to the academic success of our students. We use a variety of communicative techniques such as our LELAND COLLEGE PREPARATORY School Parent Handbook, Classroom Newsletters, School Newsletters, School Website, Classroom Websites, Communication Folders, School Messenger (phone call system), Parent/Teacher Conferences, ARD/ IEP Meetings, PTO meetings, School Council Meetings, individual notes/calls home, Family Fun Nights, Surveys (paper and phone), parent workshops, Open House, Back to School Orientations, Mid-Term Progress Reports, Report Cards, benchmark

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results, I-station / Think Through Math scores, and school digital sign, to solicit parent participation and deliver important information in hopes of creating productive dialogue between home and school concerning improved student achievement.

B. SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

The education of a student is not only the responsibility of the teacher, but also of the parent and the child. For this reason, a Parent-School---Student Compact has been developed and is utilized in our school. This document serves as an agreement between all parties that they will adhere to certain duties and responsibilities to ensure the success of the student. It is reviewed and distributed to all parents at the beginning of each school year. These compacts are also used to motivate students and parents to become more involved in the educational process and to let parents know that they are equal partners in their child's learning.

C. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under this part:

1. Shall provide assistance to the parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the state's academic content standards and state student academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; Our school will provide for this provision as stated in the Policy Involvement and Shared Responsibilities for High Student Achievement sections of this document.

2. Shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. Our school will provide for this provision as stated in the Parental Involvement Policy and Shared Responsibilities for High Student Achievement sections of this document.

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3. Shall educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with,

and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school; Faculty and staff members will be cognizant of educational research on parent involvement. Parental input will be solicited throughout the year in meetings, through surveys and during one-on-one conferences. Information derived will be utilized by the school's Administrative Team and the Shared Decision Making Committee to strengthen the tie between school and home for the purpose of increasing student achievement. The Administrative Team, along with the school's PTO and grade level committees, will take the lead in providing a multitude of opportunities for parents to become involved in our school over the course of the year in order to take full advantage of the benefits that come with active parent involvement.

4. Shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with community based learning programs and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, and curriculum materials via our website for each teacher that encourages and supports parents in more fully participating in the education of their sons. Our school population includes middle school and high school components that have access to an accelerated Math and Science curriculum. It is also the coordinator's role to take the lead in bridging a strong relationship between home and school. Field trips and campus activities that cover a wide range are plentiful throughout the year and parents are encouraged to attend these events as often as possible.

5. Shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. A large number of our information is communicated electronically via our school website and our PTO website and various social media outlets. However, when paper based communication is sent home, the written information is purposefully and as compact and concise as possible. LELAND COLLEGE PREPARATORY has made it a practice to send home school correspondences in English and Spanish to ensure all information related to our school is understandable. A system translator and or our Spanish teacher on staff assists our school with oral communication when necessary.

D. In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, LELAND COLLEGE PREPARATORY shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children,

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including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Parents of all students, regardless of English proficiency, mobility or disability, are considered to be an important part of our learning community. All parents are afforded the opportunity to be involved in their child's school environment. For this reason, if a special need is identified that would help a parent to more fully understand the educational process and the academic progress of his/her child, assistance will be provided to that parent. This type of support often comes in the form of interpreted school documents in a parent's primary language, having an interpreter on hand to translate important information at school wide meetings and events, working with an interpreter to provide translation in parent/teacher conferences, participating in faculty and staff training to better understand the culture of the students served, providing easier accessibility to parents and/or students with disabilities, etc.

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