

Merit Academy

Title 1 Parent-School Engagement Policy

Merit Academy regards parental Engagement as vital to the academic success of students. Parents are the initial teachers of their children and serve as partners with the school in helping their children achieve academic success. Merit Academy will 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 the parents can understand.

Merit Academy will involve parents in the development of its school plan.

- The school will invite two parents to participate in the development of the school plan. Information, including academic data, State and Federal allocations, personnel, and instructional strategies will be given to parent representatives 10 days prior to the meeting for review.
- The parents will review information, attend scheduled meetings and give input into the development of the school plan.
- The Merit Academy Governing Board will give final approval of the school plan.

Merit Academy will involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of school-parental Engagement policy and joint development of Title I Schoolwide Plan.

- Provide parents with forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress.
- The school will share the achievement data from the school with parents through parent meetings, the school website, and paper copies sent home.
- Merit Academy will invite input from parents regarding the school's academic goals.
- The Parents and administration will discuss scientifically research-based instructional practices.
- Merit Academy and Parents will give direction in securing research-based curriculum materials that align with goals.

Merit Academy will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of Merit Academy's participation in Title I and the parents' right to be involved.

- Meeting shall be held at a convenient time.
- Offer flexible meeting times with parents, either in the morning or evening.
- Parents shall be invited and encouraged to attend meeting.

Merit Academy will build the school and parent capacity for strong parental Engagement.

- Parents will be provided with school board meeting agendas and encouraged to attend school board meetings.
- Teachers and/or PVC will request assistance through sign-up forms for various volunteer opportunities in order to build effective parental Engagement opportunities.
- Provide annual training to school administrators and teachers on effective parent Engagement strategies.

- School administration will meet at least twice a year to discuss parental Engagement plans and coordinate efforts.
- Provide parents with description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school.
- Provide parents with proficiency level students are expected to meet.
- Provide assistance to parents in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State and local academic assessments.
- Provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and such other reasonable support for parental support for parental Engagement activities as parents may request.

Merit Academy will coordinate parental Engagement strategies with other school and local programs.

- Merit Academy will conduct an annual parental Engagement evaluation.
- Annually, parents will be encouraged to complete a parental Engagement survey that will elicit feedback on improving the academic quality of the school and request input for future efforts.

Merit Academy will ensure that the school is involving parents in a variety of school activities.

- The school administration will submit an annual report of successful parent Engagement activities.
- The identified successful parental Engagement activities will be shared with the PVC President and families with students at the school.

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