

District Wide Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in its school with a Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools 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 1111 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.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school district 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.
- The school district 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, and 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.

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:

All parents will be invited to join the EPCS PTO and become an active member of this Organization and all of their scheduled activities.

Parents will also be invited to participate in several meetings that will highlight and inform them of topics that are relevant to the academic and overall education of their children.

2. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:

All parents will be invited to attend monthly EPCS Board Meetings to be involved in the discussion of school review and improvement.

Parents will be invited to attend Parent/Teacher Conferences that will provide them the opportunity to discuss the academic achievement of their child(ren), and their contribution to education of their child.

3. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:

The EPCS Computer Lab will be made available to parents as part of a workshop presentation to assist them in the development of their computer skills as they relate to the academic achievement and school performance of their child(ren).

4. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

The Basic Skills Program and Enrichment Program

5. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School 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 improving the quality of its 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). The school district 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.

The EPCS will conduct an annual Parent Satisfaction Survey to assess parent satisfaction with the school's educational program. The survey will solicit the opinions of parents regarding their views on school safety, quality of instruction, homework, discipline, teacher expectations and parent/school communication.

As a component of our Basic Skills program, students that have been identified as having limited English proficiency will receive additional academic support to help them reach their full potential.

1. The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will build the schools' and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following

activities specifically described below:

- A. The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph --
- the State's academic content standards,
 - the State's student academic achievement standards,
 - the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
 - the requirements of Part A,
 - how to monitor their child's progress, and
 - how to work with educators:

All parents are provided the opportunity to become familiar and involved in the academic progress and development of their child through: Designated meetings to discuss the school curriculum and the mandated Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Attend meetings to participate and discuss the key elements of the NJASK Test and the parents' responsibility/partnership in preparing the student for this state assessment.

The teaching staff has found that communicating the mandates of the school's test preparation program has provided our students an opportunity to achieve academic success.

- B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, 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:

All parents are notified of the computer programs that are presently being used by the students i.e., Study Island, Writing Wizard, and other grade appropriate computer programs that are used to support and improve the academic achievement of our students.

All students throughout the school have access to the Computer Lab, and students are exposed to technology of our Smart Board. This is in addition to grade specific access to academic instruction on Smart Tables and Touch Screen Computers.

- C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, 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 workshops are provided to all staff members that highlight the importance of having a working/productive relationship with parents as valued members of the school community. These workshops help the staff identify specific areas whereby parents can become an integral member of the students' educational support system.

- D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool 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:

Informing parents of local community resources that are available to them as they participate in the educational and overall development of their children.

- E. The school district 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 the parents can understand.

To elicit parent involvement; flyers, web pages, monthly calendars School Reach and teacher notes are successful ways communication with parents.

Teachers communicate frequently with parents by telephone, letters, behavior charts, month progress reports, warning notices, notification of parents/teacher conferences and quarterly report cards.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

NOTE: The District wide Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, 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 academic 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 and child care costs, to
- enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, 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;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.]

PART IV. ADOPTION

This District wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by the Englewood on the Palisades Charter School Administration.

This policy was adopted by the Englewood on the Palisades Charter School on October 14, 2010, and will be in effect for the period of 2010-2011. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children on or before Friday, October 29, 2010.

Dr. Shirl Burns

(Signature of Authorized Official)

October 7th 2010

(Date)