

PAR EXCELLENCE ACADEMY

PHILOSOPHY OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT:

The Par Excellence Academy board of trustees values the involvement of each parent in support of their child's education. Furthermore, the board of trustees acknowledges its responsibilities to provide open communications with parents regarding not only their child's achievement and academic and social needs, but will also provide opportunities for parents to participate in other aspects of the operation of the school.

Parents are considered full partners in their child's education and will be included in the decision making process as it relates to their child and the school as a whole. The board of trustees will support the development of parental involvement programs that increase the capacity and opportunities for parents to be meaningfully involved in the education of their child.

JOINTLY PREPARED AND EVALUATED POLICY:

This policy has been developed jointly with and distributed to parents of all children enrolled in this school. This policy sets forth expectations for parents, students and staff. Each parent and each staff member will be asked annually to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy in directing parental involvement activities to address those areas that the committee deems necessary and valuable to alter.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Members of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) will include parents of children who are currently enrolled in the school. Parents employed by the school or its contractors should be limited in number and balanced on a one-to-one ratio with parents who are not employed by the school or its contractors. The PAC will meet monthly. Monthly minutes will be submitted to the chief administrative officer. All parents will be invited to the monthly meeting.

The overall responsibility of the PAC is to provide leadership and support to the teaching and learning environment that results in improving all students' achievement.

Additionally, PAC members will develop strategies and activities consistent with the vision and goals of the school and approved by the chief administrative officer.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT FOCUS:

The school will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of Par Excellence Academy parents with Title 1, part A programs, Title 1-A, Title 11-D, Title 4, and IDEA 5-B. All programs will reflect the meaningful consultation of parents such as:

- Parents will be asked to participate and review the school program and improvement process.
- A school-parent compact will be developed with parent input and signed by each parent and the designated school member in order to blend the entities together for the benefit of the child.
- The school will release the student(s) from participating in Title 4, Safe and Drug Free schools upon written request from the parent(s).
- The following elements articulated by No Child Left Behind are included in this policy:
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - In order to maximize parental involvement and participation school meetings and activities will be arranged at a variety of times.
 - Training of parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.
 - Adopting and implementing model approaches for parental involvement.
 - Developing appropriate roles for community based organizations and businesses in parental involvement.
- If the CCIP is not satisfactory to parents, the school will submit and parent comments to the Ohio Department of Education at the time the plan is submitted.
- The school will inform parents of the Parent and Resource Center, its purpose and location.

TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Parents have the right to know about the teaching qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Such requests must be made by completing a Teacher Qualification request form. Par Excellence Academy will notify parents at the beginning of the year that they may request information regarding their student's teachers and paraprofessionals including the following:

- Whether the educator has met Ohio teacher licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas assigned.
- Whether the educator is teaching under an emergency or temporary status that waives state licensing requirements.
- The current undergraduate degree, graduate degree or certifications the teacher holds.
- Whether the child will be provided services by an instructional paraprofessional and what their qualifications are.

Parents will be notified in writing or by electronic means when a teacher who is not designated as "highly qualified" has taught their child for four or more consecutive weeks.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUPPORTING TEACHING AND LEARNING:

This policy has been adopted by the board of trustees and implemented under the leadership of the chief administrative officer to build the capacity of parents to support their children and his/her teachers in meeting the high expectations of the state content standards. Therefore, the Parental Involvement Policy embraces the following components:

- A strong commitment to two way communication that is promoted and sustained by parent teacher meetings held twice during the school year, progress reports and other communications necessary to the delivery of instruction and student achievement.
- A continuous orientation of parents to the state's content standards and high quality assessments.
- Parents supplementing teacher instruction through such activities as monitoring daily instruction, television watching, volunteering at school functions, and encouraging their child's positive use of extracurricular time.
- Helping parents select materials to support learning at home including book acquisition, library visitation, and electronic research.