

## ARTSPACE CHARTER SCHOOL

### PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

#### PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

ArtSpace Charter School will implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school will utilize programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents, consistent with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- The school will work to ensure that our required parent and family engagement plan meets the requirements of ESSA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The school will incorporate our parent and family engagement plan into our school plan.
- The school will, to the extent practicable, provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children. This will include providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- The school will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance the following definition of parent and family engagement:

*Parent and family engagement means 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;*

*and*

*(D) that parents participate in other activities, such as those described ESSA*

## **PART II. SCHOOL -WIDE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Each school district that receives Title I funds shall develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy. In addition, the policy shall be incorporated into the district's plan, establish the agency's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, and describe how the agency will jointly develop a district plan: Involve parents and family members in jointly developing the district plan under ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) section 1112, and developing support and improvement plans under section 1111(d).

**PROGRAM NARRATIVE. Provide a summary of how the school will address the following:**

**Convening an annual public meeting** to inform parents about Title I and their right to be engaged-

ACS will hold an annual meeting(s) for parents no later than the sixth week school is in session. Parents will be notified of the annual meeting through an automated phone message and e-mail.

**Offering a flexible number of meetings** (i.e. meetings at various times of the day)-

The annual meeting will be held at school during the annual meet-the-teacher day in August (4:00-6:00 pm), the annual open house in September (5:30 pm) and during the "Directors and Donuts September meeting (8:30 am).

**Engaging parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way**, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the school wide program plan-

Parents will be invited to serve on the School Improvement Team (SIT), which meets monthly. One of the goals of SIT states: "All students will achieve positive growth in reading and writing each year." Parents will be invited to nominate themselves (or other parents) to serve on SIT at the annual meeting, through an automated phone message and through e-mail. Parent representatives to SIT will then be elected by a majority vote by parents.

Please see below for other options for all parents and families to be engaged and to give feedback about our program.

**Providing timely information**, Such as 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-

Classroom and whole-school newsletters will provide information about the curriculum and assessment tools being used, information about proficiency levels their children are expected to meet and strategies for working with their children at home.

**Providing opportunities for regular meetings** (if requested) to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children-

Parents will be given opportunities at SIT meetings to make suggestions for the program. They will also be encouraged to communicate with the Title 1 teacher and classroom teachers regularly through e-mail, notes and/or phone calls.

**Providing for parent comments** on content of school wide program plans-

At the annual meeting parents will be given the opportunity to comment on the content of the school wide program plans. In addition, they will be asked for comments through classroom/school newsletters, through the School Improvement Team and during our monthly "Directors and Doughnuts" meetings.

**Developing School-Parent Compacts** that indicate shared responsibilities for high student academic achievement-

Parents of all children of ACS will sign a school-parent compact which outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility of improved academic achievement.

**Providing parent assistance** on understanding State academic content standards and student academic achievement standards; how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children-

ACS will provide information to help parents understand the state's standard course of study and academic achievement standards. This information will be disseminated via classroom newsletters containing curricula focus areas throughout the year, quarterly standards-based report cards, parent conferences and literacy awareness parent meetings. Additional student assessments will contain grade level goals and student progress toward those goals.

**Providing materials and training** to help parents to work with their children to improve achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental engagement-

Parents will be given (through newsletters and parent/teacher conferences) ideas and strategies for working with their children to improve academic achievement and develop literacy skills with their children. ACS families will be invited to attend the annual Literacy Night event, which is held each Winter. During the event parents, along with their children, will have opportunities to experience numerous activities which boost reading skills. Each family in attendance will be given literacy materials for home use.

**Educating school personnel** 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-

The faculty and staff of ACS will continue to participate in training sessions during faculty meetings that focus on strategies for better communication with parents and better development of parental engagement.

**Coordinating and integrating** parent engagement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Pre-School 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-

At ACS the administration will continue to work closely with our parent volunteers to provide many opportunities for parents to become involved in the education of their children and with the school community. Parent volunteer activities are both formal and informal and include potlucks, parent education programs, numerous performance and arts-related events, field trips, cook-outs and other family events.

Parents are invited and encouraged to participate in school committees such as Health and Wellness, Safety, Development and others; and they are also invited to attend monthly Board meetings.

**Ensuring that information related** to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents in a format and in a language the parents can understand-

ACS will continue to send home information related to school and parent programs in formats which are easy to read and understand and in English. ACS will also send home information related to school and parent programs for parents with LEP in a language they can understand. Communication with parents includes: carline messages, email, automated phone messages, weekly or bi-weekly classroom newsletters, administrative newsletters, and informational fliers.

**Providing opportunities for parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children-**

ACS currently has no migratory families. Parents with LEP and/or disabilities are welcomed, supported and encouraged to be active participants in the school community just as other families are at ACS.

Revised September 19, 2017

### **PART III. ADOPTION**

#### **(From P.A.C.E., Inc. Board – Policies and Procedures Manual)**

ArtSpace Charter School will have a Parent and Family Engagement Plan in accordance with federal Title I regulations. The plan will be developed by a team that includes the Title I Teacher, other school faculty and staff, parents, and community members. All meetings are subject to NC General Statute 143-318.10 and must have a public notice of not less than 72 hours. The Title I Teacher or Executive Director will facilitate all meetings. The Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be submitted to the Executive Director for approval and will be disseminated to all ArtSpace families. All revisions will be presented in a public forum according to the initiating guidelines outlined in this policy. The plan will be reviewed and revised annually. The current Parent and Family Engagement Plan will be kept in the front office and made available upon request.

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