



PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Elevate Elementary Charter School (“Elevate” or the “Charter School”) has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy (“Policy”) with input from Title I parents and families. Elevate has distributed the Policy to parents of Title I students by making copies available in the office, posting it on the school website, and including a link in the handbook. This Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

Elevate Expectations and Objectives

In establishing the Charter School’s expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, Elevate has established the following practices:

1. Elevate involves parents and family members in the joint development of the Charter School’s Parent and Family Engagement Plan at the following meetings:
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors (Open to all parents)
 - Parent Advisory Meetings (Open to all parents)
 - ELAC Meetings (Open to all parents)
2. Elevate provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity within the Charter School in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
 - Parents are invited to attend Back to School Night where information regarding curriculum used is explained.
 - Our website includes links to the Common Core Standards and an explanation of what they are.
 - Chromebooks and tech help is made available at Student Orientation to assist parents in applying for volunteer clearance.
3. Elevate coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs.
 - Parent meetings (ELAC, Parent Advisory Meetings, Coffee/Dessert with the Directos, etc.) are open to all parents.

4. Elevate conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Policy in improving the academic quality at the Charter School.
 - Annually at the Parent Advisory Meeting (open to all parents).
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
5. Elevate conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of barriers to greater participation by parents/families .
 - ELAC Meetings
 - Parent Advisory meetings
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors.
6. Elevate conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with Charter School personnel and teachers.
 - Parent Workshops
 - Fall/Spring Family Engagement Survey
7. Elevate conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of strategies to support successful Charter School and family interactions.
 - Fall/Spring Family Engagement Survey
 - Parent Advisory Meeting
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
8. Elevate uses the findings of the annual evaluation to revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
 - Results from the Fall/Spring Family Engagement Surveys are published to the school and discussed in Parent Advisory Meetings, ELAC, and Coffee/Dessert with the Directors.
9. Elevate involves parents in the activities of the Charter School to adequately represent the needs of the population.
 - Annual Parent Advisory Meetings
 - ELCA Meetings
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors (held monthly)

Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents in the Title I program at Elevate, the following practices have been established:

1. Elevate convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program.

- Annual Coffee/Dessert with the Directors informing parents of their school's participation under Title I and to explain the requirements of Title I, and the right of the parents to be involved.
2. Elevate offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
 - Elevate intentionally schedules Coffee/Dessert with the Directors at different times and on different days of the week to accommodate as many parents as possible.
 3. Elevate involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Charter School's Title I programs and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
 - Parent Advisory Meetings
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
 - ELAC Meetings
 4. Elevate provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs.
 - Student Handbook Notification (via yearly Parent Data Confirmation)
 - Back to School Night
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
 - Parent Advisory Meetings
 - ParentSquare Electronic Newsletters (weekly)
 5. Elevate provides parents of Title I students with a description and explanation of the curriculum used at the Charter School, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - Student Handbook
 - Family Resources on school Website
 - Back to School Night
 6. If requested by parents of Title I students, Elevate provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors held on different days and at different times to ensure access to all parents.

The Policy must be updated periodically to meet changing needs of parents and the Charter School. If Elevate has a process in place for involving parents in planning and designing the Charter School's programs, the school may use that process if it includes adequate representation of parents of Title I children.

School-Parent Compact

Elevate distributes to parents of Title I students a School-Parent Compact (the “Compact”). The Compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire Charter School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the Charter School and families will partner to help children achieve the State’s high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students:

1. Elevate’s responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to meet the challenging State academic standards.
2. The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children’s learning, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
3. The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child’s class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities and ensuring regular communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

Elevate School holds an annual Parent Advisory Meeting to obtain parent input on the School-Parent Compact. Once complete, the compact is attached to the Parent Engagement Policy and distributed by making copies available in the office, posting it on the school website, and including a link in the handbook.

Building Capacity for Involvement

Elevate engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the Charter School. The Charter School supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, Elevate has established the following practices.

1. Elevate provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding challenging state academic standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.
 - Back to School Night
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
 - Parent Workshops
 - Parent Resources on school website
2. Elevate provides Title I parents with materials and training, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
 - Back to School Night
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors

- Parent Workshops
 - Parent Resources on school website.
3. With the assistance of Title I parents, Elevate educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and in how to reach out, communicate with, work with parents as equal partners, and build ties between parents and the Charter School.
 - Staff Meetings
 - Annual Teacher Retreat
 4. Elevate coordinates and integrates the Title I parental involvement program with other programs, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors
 - Parent Advisory Meetings
 - Parent Events
 - Fall/Spring Exhibition Night
 - Parent Workshops
 - Volunteering opportunities
 - ELAC Meetings
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Back to School Night
 - Student Orientation
 5. Elevate distributes information related to Charter School and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand.
 - Weekly Newsletters can be translated into >100 languages.
 - 2-Way communication can be done with the School (teachers, office, staff) in the language that is most convenient for the family.
 - Amharic and Spanish translation available for Parent/Teacher conferences and upon request at other times.
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors are held on different days and at different times to ensure access to all parents.
 6. Elevate provides support for parental involvement activities requested by Title I parents.
 - The Parent Engagement Coordinator reaches out to Individual parents that are underrepresented to encourage involvement.
 - Elevate School provides Amharic and Spanish translation to parents at Parent/Teacher conference and when requested at other times.
 - 2-Way communication in ParentSquare can be done with the school (teachers, office, staff) in the language that is most convenient for the family.
 - Weekly Newsletters can be translated into >100 languages.
 - Coffee/Dessert with the Directors are held on different days and at different times to ensure access to all parents.

Accessibility

Board Policy #: [INSERT]
Adopted/Ratified: [INSERT]
Revision Date: [INSERT]

Elevate provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents and family members, including parents/family with limited English proficiency. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents/family understand, including by:

- Weekly Newsletters can be translated into >100 languages.
- 2-Way communication in ParentSquare can be done with the school (teachers, office, staff) in the language that is most convenient for the family.
- Amharic and Spanish translation available upon request.
- Coffee/Dessert with the Directors held on different days and at different times to ensure access to all parents.

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