

GreenWood Charter School

Policy Number: 106 – Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Policy Section: 100 - Administration

POLICY TITLE: Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Revision History

Effective Date	Action Date	Revised
October 16, 2014	New Policy	New Policy
		February 20, 2019

Board Policy Sections:

- School Board 000 series
- Administration 100 series
- Instruction 200 series
- Student Services 300 series
- Staff policies 400 series
- Business and Operations policies 500 series
- Community 600 series

GreenWood Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Effective Date: October 16, 2014

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GreenWood Charter School believes that parent involvement is vital to a successful school and optimal student achievement. Parents who enroll their children in GreenWood Charter School should do so with the understanding that their involvement is crucial to the success of their child's education and of the school. Parents are expected to volunteer **30 hours per year**. Parents are expected to sign-up for a crew upon registration of their student at GreenWood. Family Crews will be developed by the FCO and administration to support the instructional, cultural and community goals of the school. We believe every family has talents, skills, service and ideas that need to be shared with our school to make GreenWood a remarkable place to learn and grow for our students.

GreenWood Charter School will involve parents and family members in jointly developing GreenWood Charter School's Parent and Family Engagement policy under section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d). The policy describes both parent engagement expectations and GreenWood Charter School's role in involving parents, providing support for parents, coordinating parent engagement in schools, and evaluating the effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of schools.

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

The following Parent Involvement Policy—created in consultation with parents, and in conjunction with section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)—sets forth the parameters and conditions for parental involvement in the educational programs at GreenWood Charter School which are supported in part by Title I program funds.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT-

As a component of the school-level parent and family engagement policy developed under subsection (b), GreenWood Charter school shall jointly develop with parents for

all children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards. The Greenwood Charter School compact can be found on the school's website, www.greenwoodcharter.org, as well as in each student registration forms.

Such compact shall —

(1) describe Greenwood Charter School's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under this part to meet the challenging State academic standards, and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time; and

(2) address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, **at a minimum** —

(A) Student Led Conferences, at least twice a year, during the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement;

(B) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress;

(C) reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities; and

(D) ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

PART II. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

GreenWood Charter School will actively work to provide ongoing, effective and efficient communication to our families through the following practices:

(1) convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

(2) offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

- (3) Through FCO, Board Crews, Fieldwork, and Celebration will involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b) except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children;
- (4) provide parents —
 - a. timely information about programs under this part;
 - b. a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
 - c. if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

GreenWood Charter School will build the capacity of schools and parents for strong parental engagement through activities and strategies, such as:

1. Learner Goal Conferences, Student Led Conferences, Back to School Night, School Community Celebrations, Kindergarten Readiness, Parent/Community Presentations, Education Nights, Family Nights, and other programs aimed at improving parent capacity.
2. GreenWood Charter School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental engagement programs and activities with, Ogden Nature Center, and other community and city sponsored events, and other agencies that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
3. GreenWood Charter School will ensure that information related to the 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. GreenWood Charter School will identify and share with parents various opportunities for engagement in the education of their children.
4. GreenWood Charter School will support families in need of additional parent training, engagement, and motivation. GreenWood Charter School will

implement strategies to support success with these families, such as: engagement in Student Led Conferences, various family activity nights, and parenting classes.

5. Greenwood Charter School will engage families so they understand what their child should know and be able to do. Families will also know how well their child is doing so they can take action at home to support what their child is learning each day.

PART III. PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

Greenwood Charter School -

- (1) shall provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
- (2) will listen to parents and learn what parents think, dream, and worry about in an effort to gain partners in education;
- (3) shall provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental engagement;
- (4) shall educate teachers, student services personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, 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: working side by side with parents to, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school through regular personalized communication, and modeling of learning support strategies;
- (5) shall 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;
- (6) may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- (7) may train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents;
- (8) may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental engagement and participation;
- (9) may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental engagement;

- (10) may establish a parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental engagement in programs supported under this section;
- (11) may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent engagement activities; and
- (12) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental engagement activities under this section as parents may request.

PART IV. ANNUAL EVALUATION

GreenWood Charter School will conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of all schools served under this part, including identifying—

- barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by this section (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); Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Public Law 114-95 Section 1116. PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and
- strategies to support successful school and family interactions.

GreenWood Charter School uses this data to determine goals and allocate resources for our school. This helps us meet the needs of parents and families, thus closing the achievement and opportunity gap at our schools.