



Final Fall 2023  
Cyber Academy of South Carolina (CASC)  
Parent Involvement Policy 2023-2024

## **Parent and Family Involvement/Engagement Policy**

Date: **September 20, 2023**

Cyber Academy of SC (CASC) receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must develop jointly with the parents of children participating in Title I services, a written parent and family engagement policy that describes how the school will carry out the parent and family engagement requirements set forth in The Every Student Succeeds Act(ESSA), section 1116(a)(2). This policy establishes CASC's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement parent and family engagement activities.

**Cyber Academy of SC** will do the following:

A. **Involve parents** and family members in the school's Title I program:

- **Hold an annual meeting** to assist parents in understanding that their school receives Title I funds, that these funds come with requirements, and that parents and/or guardians have the right to be involved.
- Provide parents timely information about the Title I program **via our school hosted website, <https://www.cyberacademysc.com/Support-Team/title-1-info>**.
- Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program by inviting all parents to nominate themselves to be a part of the planning meeting and asking for input on the plans and to take suggestions for improvement.
- Involve parents in the joint development of the school-wide program plan by **inviting families to self-nominate to be a part of the planning meeting and asking for input and suggestions yearlong**.

B. Implement the following actions to engage parents/families in the **Parent and Family Engagement Policy** by:

- Develop jointly with, agree on with, and distribute to, parents and family members of a written parent and family engagement policy. The written parent and family engagement policy shall meet these requirements: Written in an understandable format, provided in a language parents can understand, distributed to all parents, and made available to the local community.
  - Collect feedback annually to improve the policy's effectiveness in meeting the needs of the students and requirements of the Title I program.
  - Provide parents/families access to the information in this Parent and Family Engagement policy through open communication about the policy during parent meetings, such as **Annual Title I Public Meetings, Open Houses, Parent-Teacher-Student Meetings, Parent Square, and our website.**
- Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the Parent and Family Involvement Policy **making this policy a part of our Planning Meeting agenda and accepting input from all parents during the review process and year long.**
- C. Develop jointly with parents and families a School Parent Compact which describes the following:
- Outline how parents, school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
  - The school's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables our children to meet the challenging State academic standards.
  - The ways in which parents and family members will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and volunteering in their child's school, and positive use of extracurricular time.
  - Address the importance of on-going communication between teachers and parents, and family members through; parent-teacher conferences, frequent reports to parents on their child's progress, the provision of reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate/observe in their child's class, and ensure communication is regular, two-way, and meaningful and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.
- D. Build the school and parent capacity for strong parent and family involvement through the following:
- Implement effective family engagement activities and involve families in school activities by encouraging families to be a close and integral part of their student's learning. The online virtual program relies on a facilitator in the home for students to fully receive the intended school experience.
  - **Conduct an annual evaluation** of the effectiveness of the policy in improving the academic quality of the school, including identifying barriers to greater participation by families and utilize the findings to design strategies to support successful family interactions and to revise engagement policies.

- Provide assistance to parents in understanding topics such as the challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with the school and teachers to improve the achievement of their children by offering support and training through the use of Advisors for additional support, and live parent and learning coach university virtual sessions.
- **Provide materials and training** to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement by encouraging families to attend a "walk-to-class" training and to be very involved in the student's daily course of study.
- Educate teachers, personnel, and school leaders on the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners and build ties between parents and the school by **sharing the benefits of parent engagement through such activities as the social emotional learning program and the use of a communication application, such as ParentSquare to improve the likelihood that families will see and feel comfortable responding to school communication.**
- Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs by **regularly working together across school departments and utilizing district trainings and guidance.**
- Provide parents with 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 by **direct access to all curriculum materials in the home through their school login. Student test scores will be emailed to the parent in a timely fashion.**

E. The school will make accommodations to support parent engagement through the following:

- Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a format and language the parents can understand by **using direct language as often as possible and making translation and other services available upon request to parents.**
- Encourage parent engagement by paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation, childcare, or home visit expenses to enable participation in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children.
- Arrange parent meetings, including parent conferences, at a variety of times and days to maximize parental engagement and program.
- Provide other reasonable support for parent involvement activities parents may request and provide, 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 will respond to any such suggestions within **one school week**.

The above Parent Involvement Policy and Below School-Family Compact are in draft stages and are open for input from parents. To send your input please email Jennifer Matthews at [jmatthews@cyberacademysc.org](mailto:jmatthews@cyberacademysc.org). See our [Written Procedure for Processing Parent Suggestions](#).