

Adopted: 6-11-16

*Southside Family Charter School Policy 612
Orig. 2016*

Revised: 4-28-18

612 PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

I. PURPOSE

Southside Family Charter School operates a Schoolwide Title I Program, which uses federal Title I funds to help ensure that all students meet challenging state academic standards. The purpose of this policy is to encourage and facilitate engagement of parents and families in the educational programs and experiences of students.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school will continually strive to increase the engagement of parents in the education of their children through strong lines of communication between school and families, and the explicit engagement of parents and families in the development and review of the school's Title I Program.

III. PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN

- A. The school shall develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents a written Parent Involvement Plan, which is included as an addendum to this policy.
- B. The Parent Involvement Plan establishes the school's expectations for meaningful parent and family involvement, and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent involvement activities.
- C. Once finalized and approved by the Board of Directors, the Parent Involvement Plan is incorporated into the school's Schoolwide Plan, and into the school's annual Title I Application. The Plan is also posted on the school's website.
- D. The Parent Involvement Plan is annually evaluated for its effectiveness and updated jointly with teachers, staff, parents and community members.

IV. SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

- A. The school shall develop jointly with parents a compact stating how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for student academic achievement and growth.
- B. The School-Parent Compact should be reviewed with parents annually at Fall parent-teacher conferences.

V. ANNUAL TITLE I PARENT MEETING

- A. Each year, the school must present the Title I Program to parents at the Annual Meeting in September. As part of that meeting, it should be explained what the Title I Program is, and how parents can be involved.
- B. A discussion of the previous year's parent involvement initiatives should be held as part of this meeting, as well as a summary of the previous year's program evaluation findings.

VI. ANNUAL EVALUATION OF PARENT INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES

- A. The school must annually evaluate the school's parent involvement activities for improving family engagement and the academic success of students.
- B. As part of coordinating the evaluation, the school should seek to identify barriers to greater participation by parents, with 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.
- C. The school may use the annual spring satisfaction survey to gather feedback about the school's parent involvement activities. In addition, the school may use other data, such as parent attendance at school conferences and academic growth of students identified for intervention services, to evaluate the effectiveness of the school's parent involvement activities.
- D. After analyzing data and feedback about the school's parent involvement opportunities, the school should consider what, if any, revisions should be made to the Parent Involvement Plan and/or the School-Parent Compact. The final version then goes to the Board of Directors for approval, before the Title I Application deadline of September 1.
- E. A summary of feedback received and resulting modifications made to parent involvement strategies should be shared at the Annual Meeting as part of the Title I Program presentation.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parental Involvement)

Cross References: Southside Family Charter School Policy 616 (School System Accountability)