



Every man is the architect of his own fortune

School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

School Year 2019 -2020

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes Boys' Latin's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:

- The school will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and family members with Title I, Part A programs. These programs, activities, and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents and family members of participating children.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, limited literacy, disabilities, of migratory children, who are economically disadvantaged, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the state Department of Education.

• The school will be governed by the following definition of parental involvement and expects that we will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition in Section 8101 of the ESSA:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school
- (C) 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
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESEA

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL LEA PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

JOINTLY DEVELOPED

Boys’ Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents and family members in jointly developing its LEA plan under Section 1112, and the development of support and improvement plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 1111(d) of the ESEA:

Parents, members of the community, and school staff meet to discuss the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the Title I program regularly. Representatives from each school's parent leadership group review and update the school's Title I School-Wide Plan annually. Back to School Night, Extended Family Network Meetings, Parent/Teacher Conferences, College and Career Preparation Meetings.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Boys’ Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will provide the following coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build capacity of all Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education:

The Federal Programs Coordinator will provide guidance and support on appropriate use of parent involvement funds and review school Parental Involvement Policies, School Improvement/Schoolwide Plans, and School-Parent Compacts to ensure compliance.

ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

Parents' surveys, including questions about the effectiveness of the program, are distributed and the results tabulated each year. The School Improvement Committee revises the BLPCS Parent Involvement Policy based on the results of this annual review. The School Improvement Committee meets throughout the school year to evaluate and update the progress of Title I programs.

COMMUNICATIONS

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children the following:

- Timely information about the Title I programs
- Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement.
- Information related to the school and 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:

Methods of distribution: Back-to-School Night Handouts, school website, parent/teacher conferences, Extended Family Network Meetings.

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating 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.

Parents, members of the community, and school staff meet to discuss the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the Title I program regularly. Representatives from each school's parent leadership group review and update the school's Title I School-Wide Plan annually. BLPCS holds at least one meeting annually to review Title I Policy and services offered through the school. Copies of the school's current Parent Involvement Policy are distributed both before and at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the revising and updating the Policy as necessary.

RESERVATION OF FUNDS

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will involve the parents and family members of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent and will ensure that not less than 90 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to Title I schools.

The Federal Programs Coordinator and our Extended Family Network Leadership Team will work together to plan for the 1% reservation of funds each school year. The budget information will be shared during the initial meeting in September. The Extended Family Network Leadership Team will plan the activities for family engagement.

COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local 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 by:

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will coordinate with the Extended Family Network to facilitate parent meetings, parent engagement activities, and parent/student information sessions.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
 - The challenging State's academic standards
 - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments

- The requirements of Title I, Part A
- How to monitor their child's progress
- How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia will provide resources to our parents and online assistance to parents needing help with any subject area. The school will also provide laptops at the school site for parents to use during the school day and some evenings.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF

Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, 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, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

- Sending home newsletters
- Sending home graded papers
- Making home visits
- Scheduling parent/teacher conferences
- Making phone calls; sending home homework
- Encouraging parents to serve as volunteers/tutors
- Attending conferences, seminars, workshops, and meetings with parents
- Serving together on school committees

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training.
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds if the school has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parent and family engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents.
- To maximize parent and family engagement and participation in their child's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences with teachers or other educators who work directly with participating children and parents who are unable to attend conferences at school.
- Establish a districtwide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parent and family engagement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parent and family engagement activities.