

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

The Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This document also describes the means by which the school and parents will build a partnership that will help children to develop to their fullest potential and in turn achieve the State's high standards.

REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS

School Commitment

The Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning will:

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to develop to their fullest potential and in turn meet the State's student academic achievement standards. The school will:

- Ensure that all teachers are undergoing continual training in the methods and materials associated with the Subordination of Teaching to Learning approach.
- Hold frequent observations and discussions between classroom teachers and staff developers to continually monitor the progress of students.
- Ensure that designated professional staff meet frequently in small groups with at-risk children to address their individual learning needs and adjust instruction to their pace.
- Assess students' progress in an on-going way and continue to modify curriculum presentations to best match the learning style of each student.

COMMUNICATION

- **Hold parent-teacher conferences** for all students three a year (in late fall, late winter and late spring). For at-risk students, conferences are held more often, as part of the Pupil Assistance Team's effort to accelerate and intensify the learning experience of children at-risk.
- **Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress**, through written notes, a daily homework book, progress reports, a teacher website, email and telephone calls home, and parent conferences as needed.
- **Provide parents reasonable access to staff**. Staff will be available to discuss student progress any afternoon after school or at a minimum within a week of a request being made.
- **Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class activities**, specifically to help chaperone trips and volunteer during Parent Involvement Days. They may observe their child at work in his/her class upon request.

Parent Commitment

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- **Timeliness/Attendance** - I understand that it's my responsibility to make sure my child is punctual every day. I commit to taking my child to school every day on time (8:00 am).
- **Support & Homework** - I will participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my child's education. I commit to assisting my child the best way I know how, to increase

my child's learning opportunity. I will help my child to study, and I will check and **sign my child's homework every night**.

- **Independent Reading** - In conjunction with the school's initiative on reading, I will insist that my child read for at least 30 minutes a night (including weekends). I will never sign my child's reading log without seeing my child reading.
- **Communication** - I will stay informed about my child's education and communicate with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school either received via my child or by mail, and respond in a timely way, as appropriate.
- **Uniform** - I will send my child to school every day in the BBL uniform. **I understand that if my child is not in uniform, he or she may not be allowed in class and someone from my family will have to come to the school with the required clothing.**
- **School Rules** - I understand that BBL has very high behavior standards. I commit to making every effort to communicate and discuss these rules with my child and make sure that my child lives up to the standards. I understand that the purpose of these rules is to protect the safety and rights of all individuals.
- **Attendance at Parent/Guardian Meetings** - I commit to attending all required parent/guardian meetings and seminars, including those scheduled to discuss my child's behavior.
- **Volunteering** - I will serve, to the extent possible, on the school's advisory groups and PTA.

Student Commitment

I, as a student, will share the responsibility to improve my academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically I will:

- **Y.E.S.** - I will practice our school creed throughout the school day (Respect and Take Care of Yourself, Each other, and the School).
- **My Best Effort** - I will **always** try my hardest in all that I do. I will think and work hard the best way I know how. I will follow the directives of my teachers, administrators, and all other adults the **first time** I am asked.
- **Uniform** - I will come dressed appropriately every day in my BBL uniform. I commit to keeping my uniform neat throughout the school day.
- **Homework** - I commit to completing my homework assignments the best way I know how every night. My work will be neatly done and handed in on time.
- **Independent Reading** - I commit to reading at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.
- **Communication** - I will raise my hand and ask questions when I don't understand something. I commit to always communicating with my teachers and school administrators in a respectful manner (no talking back or rolling my eyes). I will give to my parents or the adult responsible for my welfare all notices and information that I receive from my school every day.