

What is a School-Parent Compact?

A *School-Parent Compact for Achievement* is an agreement that parents, students and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach or exceed grade-level standards. Effective compacts:

- Link to goals of the school improvement plan
- Focus on student learning skills
- Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality curriculum and instruction
- Share strategies parents can use at home
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom

Jointly Developed

The parents and staff of Denzel Washington School of the Arts developed this School-Parent Compact for Achievement. Meetings are held annually to review the Compact and make changes based on student needs.

Parents are welcome to contribute at any time.

Building Partnerships

Join us throughout the year:

- Back To School Night
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- PTA Meetings
- Parent Workshops
- Open House
- Yearly Back to School Kickoff
- Parent Involvement Day
- Student Performances

Communication about Student Learning

Denzel Washington School of the Arts is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways parents and teachers communicate all year are:

- Homework folders and agendas
- Current grades on Parent Portal
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Notes, phone calls, or emails

Do you have questions about your child's progress?

We encourage you to contact your child's teacher at any point during the academic year. You can get their contact information by referring to your child's course syllabus that was distributed during our Back to School Night.

Mount Vernon City School District



School-Parent Compact for Achievement

2024-2025



Denzel Washington School of the Arts

121 South 6th Ave

Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Andrea M. Thomas - Principal

914-253-2740

Our Goals for Student Achievement

School Goals

Denzel Washington School of the Arts will continue to increase the number of students reaching proficiency in mathematics and English/language arts.

Our focus in English/language arts is:

- Develop life-long reading
- Encourage and foster students' interest in reading a variety of fictional literature and non-fiction texts.
- Determine the meaning of, comprehend, and appropriately utilize academic vocabulary in speaking and writing.

Our focus in math is:

- To strengthen math computation skills.
- To have students explain their mathematical reasoning in a way that clearly supports their problem-solving strategies.
- Students will develop adaptive reasoning, strategic competence and procedural fluency when writing in math.

Our focus in the Arts is:

- Develop and enhance their awareness and understanding of the artistic world through a continuous study of artistic disciplines.

In The Classroom

As a school, Denzel Washington School of the Arts staff will:

- Have high expectations and use strategies to support all students in their ability to access the curriculum.
- Communicate regularly with families regarding current academic programs and be accessible to parents/guardians to discuss questions and concerns.
- Provide materials and information to help parents support the school's academic program.
- Provide a positive environment where all students can succeed.
- Participate in professional development opportunities that improve teaching and learning for all students.
- Respect all colleagues, students, and their families.

DWSA Parents will:

Ensure scholars attend school regularly, on time, and dressed in appropriate attire each day.

- Check backpacks and folders for important information.
- Encourage children to complete his/her classwork and always do his/her best.
- Provide a quiet place and time for homework and making sure work is completed daily.

- To supervise the student's positive use of free time.
- Discuss and review their children's schoolwork and contact the teacher with questions or concerns.
- Respect the school staff, students, and families.
- Visit and communicate with the school frequently and attend mutually scheduled conferences.

DWSA Utilizes Arts Integration to Ensure:

- Teachers incorporate various arts forms like visual arts, music, drama and dance into their curriculum.
- Teachers connect the arts to core subjects such as history, science, and literature.
- Students create artistic representations of concepts they are learning, analyze existing work and use artistic processes to deepen their understanding of complex ideas.