

P. How the LEA may provide literacy training if all other sources of funds have been exhausted...

ACCEL will utilize funding from the Title I set-aside for literacy training for parents as needed if local fund sources, along with other reasonable sources have been exhausted.

Q. How the LEA may pay reasonable expenses for parent activities, including transportation and childcare...

Accel may use a portion of its local philanthropic funds to cover the costs of parent and family engagement activities and to assist with transportation and other barriers to participation for parents and families.

R. How the LEA may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents.

Accel's Parent Advisory Committee serves as the nucleus for parental engagement. These parents are trained to lead professional development for other parents, so that more parents can understand how and why they should be engaged with the school.

S. How the LEA may arrange school meetings at a variety of times to maximize parental involvement...

Accel will work to maximize parental involvement and participation. Teachers will send home bi-weekly comprehensive progress reports via paper. School administration will send home monthly school newsletters. Teachers will conduct monthly conferences with parents. Those parents who are unable to attend face-to-face conferences will have the opportunity to have phone call conferences. The school will work through the parent advisory council to survey parents of their needs and offer meetings/trainings to address those needs. The school will contact parents for important meetings and events through email, telephone calls, newsletters, and the school's website. All meetings/conferences will be scheduled using a flexible schedule to accommodate parents and maximize attendance.

T. How the LEA may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement...

Accel Day and Evening Academy's bases its approach to parental engagement on the research conducted by Dr. Karen Mapp of the Harvard Graduate School of Education. We focus on creating authentic connections between the school and families. We maintain constant communication through a shared problem-solving team approach. We also have advocate counselors of staff that work to bridge the needs of the home and the school. We focus on collaboration through two-way communication, recognizing parent's strengths, and solving problems together.

U. How the LEA may establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on matters related to parental involvement...

Accel Day and Evening Academy has a Parent Advisory Council that advises the school on parent and family engagement strategies related to the implementation of federal programs.

V. How the LEA may develop roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities...

Accel Day and Evening Academy has a school Parent Advisory Council which, based on stakeholder feedback, develops collaborative relationships with community-based organizations to help in addressing the needs of the students and families before, during, and after school.

W. How the LEA will provide opportunities for the participation of parents in a format and language that parents understand...

ACCEL believes in engaging parents and families in the education of a child. It is our belief that a strong connection between home and school contributes to the success of children. We will ensure that every school will promote partnerships that will increase parental engagement and participation in promoting the social, emotional and academic growth of students. Recognizing that families are diverse in cultural and language needs, the following will be implemented:

1. Convene an annual district-wide meeting to inform and survey parents of programs (inclusive of the Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA and IDEA legislation) and school related activities involving parents.
 2. Provide opportunities for the coordination of parental engagement activities with pertinent community agencies.
 3. Ensure a successful parent volunteer program.
 4. Develop a Home/School Connection Program through Parenting Partners.
 5. Promote clear, two-way communication between the school and the family about state and local content standards, academic assessment, school improvement and individual student progress.
 6. Create a positive, friendly and inviting environment in each school which is conducive to parental and family engagement.
 7. Provide a School/Parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.
 8. Promote notification to parents and families regarding general information, programs, school activities, and other related requirements as stated by Every Student Succeeds legislation.
- Further, the school system will comply with all requirements specific to participating Title I schools that may be in addition to those previously listed, to include specific funding, compacts, meetings, and engagement of parents in the planning, review, and improvement of programs including the planning, review, and improvement of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy resulting in a positive, friendly and inviting environment in each school which is conducive to parental and family engagement.

MAEF Public Charter Schools

District

Parent and Family Engagement Plan



2024 – 2025



3725 Airport Blvd. Suite 161
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A. How the LEA will involve parents and family members in jointly developing the local educational agency plan...

MAEF Public Charter Schools will use parent focus groups to ensure a cross section of all parents are represented. Parent views during the registration process, along with formal and informal surveys allow parent feedback relevant to current reality. Parent programs, parent meetings and different means to provide two - way communication is expressed and provided. Parents are a part of the ACIP team and Parent Advisory Committee to help with the development of processes and procedures that formulate the instructional practices of the school. Parents' feedback is also utilized in the evaluation of the instructional practices being implemented.

B. How the Local Education Agency will provide technical assistance in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement...

In an effort to build capacity in our parents, ACCEL will coordinate and integrate parent involvement activities with additional programs including, but not limited to, MAEF Full Service Grant Community Activities, Lifelines Counseling Services (211) /United Way, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast, Alta Pointe Counseling, The Bridge, and The Nest Programs/Child Policy Council, and Girls Leadership/Strickland Youth Center. All workshops and activities are aligned to help parents recognize their importance to the school's efforts in making sure all students receive the best education possible.

C. How the LEA will integrate engagement strategies under Federal, State, and local laws...

Accel will coordinate and integrate parent and family involvement activities with the approved curriculum, state standards, state testing, and school planned events to ensure that parents are actively involved in the education of their student and are vocal in making effective changes when needed.

D. How the Local Education Agency will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy...

Through feedback from parent surveys, needs assessment data and parent advisory committee meetings, data will be provided to identify barriers to participation by parents and families of all students. Special effort will be given to reach targeted populations. Based on data collected, appropriate resources will be provided for parents regarding ways they may assist in their child's learning and how best to engage with school staff. ACCEL will also reach out to parents regularly through social media, open houses, and home visits. All communications and correspondences will be provided in languages that all parents can understand using TransAct. All meetings and conferences will be flexible to allow all parents the opportunity to participate. School information will be posted on the System's website, social media outlets, newsletters, email and text message send outs, and in take-home folders and are translated as needed.

E. How the LEA will conduct an annual evaluation of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy in improving the academic quality of schools...

An annual evaluation is conducted using feedback from parent surveys, needs assessment data and parent advisory committee meetings. The evaluation's purpose will be to determine the identified needs of families to help ensure their students are receiving quality

education are met. Based on the evaluation, changes or updates will be made to the Parent and Family Engagement Plan as needed.

F. How the LEA will conduct an evaluation in identifying strategies to support family interactions....

Using the feedback from parent surveys, needs assessment data and parent advisory committee meetings, the Advisory Committee will collaborate to determine if parents were given adequate opportunities to successfully interact with the schools. Updates will be added to the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and shared with parents during meetings and conferences as needed.

G. How the LEA will use the evaluation to design strategies and revise the Family Engagement Plan...

Using assessment data, both formative and summative, the Advisory Committee will collaborate with teachers to develop evidence-based strategies to assist parents with helping their students at home. These strategies will periodically be updated in the Parent and Family Engagement Plan and shared with parents during meetings and conferences.

H. How the LEA will involve parents in the activities of the school for the purpose of developing and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy...

The LEA will develop a parent and family engagement plan that will include input from all stakeholders: teachers, administrators, students, community members, and parents. The Federal Programs Advisory Committee and members of the Parent Advisory Committee will provide meaningful input into the school's policies and practices. The Federal Programs Advisory Committee and members of the Parent Advisory Committees will provide meaningful input into the policy of ACCEL Day and Evening Academy. The LEA will provide opportunities and materials to educate all school staff and leadership on the value and utility of meaningful engagement. ACCEL Day and Evening Academy will work to include all parents and families in all school events and activities. All efforts will be made to train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents through those scheduled events and activities. Open house and orientation sessions, parent-teacher conferences, the Annual Title I meetings, etc. will all be platforms to seek the assistance of those parents in attendance to encourage others to attend. ACCEL Day and Evening Academy operates under a collaborative model of parent and family engagement. The system and individual schools will work with families to accomplish a common mission for children's educational success. There is collaboration among parents, educators, and community members. Collaboration occurs through two-way communication, recognizing parents' strengths, and solving problems together. The district and individual schools are open to exploring new policies, practices, relationships, and attitudes that foster partnering for children's school success. The notifications and information sent home to the parents and families in ACCEL Day and Evening Academy will be provided in a format and language that parents can understand. Translated documents can be obtained from the TransAct system, as well as the translation of local documents through CTS Language Link translation services. Parent surveys, needs assessment data and parent advisory committee meetings conducted at the local schools at conclusion of each school year will help provide data to identify barriers to participation by parents and families of all students

I. How the LEA will provide assistance to parents in understanding academic standards and assessments...

Parents and students will receive an annual orientation where they learn about the school's curriculum, state academic standards, and requirements for graduation. Parents and students each receive access to PowerSchool to check grades and attendance. Additionally, students will receive school email addresses to use for correspondence. There will also be meetings scheduled to assist parents in understanding the results of their students' achievement on all state assessments. All of this is in addition to the 9-week report cards and scheduled progress reports.

J. How the LEA will provide materials and training to help parents improve their children's achievement...

ACCEL will host educational activities with parents to help them understand the curricula used at Accel. After these activities parents will leave with a plethora of strategies and resources that will assist them with working with their students at home. These activities include, but are not limited to Math Nights, Technology Literacy, and Reading Nights.

K. How the LEA will educate teachers and staff in the value of the contributions of parents...

Accel will provide opportunities and materials to educate all school staff and leadership on the value and utility of meaningful family engagement. Additionally, the school will provide focused, needs-based professional development on an ongoing basis.

L. How the LEA will coordinate parent involvement programs with other Federal, State, and local programs...

Accel and MAEF will have a parent resource area for parents to meet with staff and to be provided with materials and resources to assist with all areas of development including preschool. Accel will coordinate and integrate parent involvement activities with additional programs including, but not limited to MAEF Full Service Community Grant, Family Intervention Team, Lifelines Counseling, Project THRIVE, Genesis Counseling, Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast, Alta Pointe Counseling, The Bridge, and The Nest Programs.

M. How the LEA will ensure that information will be sent in a language the parents can understand...

Accel will send notifications using mail, electronic mail, the school's website, mass-call reminders, and student take-home formats. The notifications and information sent home to the parents and families in Accel will be provided in a format and language that parents can understand. Translated documents can be obtained from the TransAct system, as well as the translation of local documents.

N. How the LEA will provide support as parents may request...

Accel will support parents through the Parent Advisory Committee to identify, fund, and execute other activities that keep parents informed and engaged.

O. How the LEA may involve parents in the development of training for teachers and other staff...

Accel will convene an ACIP committee and Parent Advisory Committee, which will have parents as members. These committees will be consulted to determine action steps for the upcoming school year with regards to the development of training for school staff. This committee will also be involved in the evaluation of this training at the end of the school year.