

M.A. Connolly School  
Parent and Family Engagement

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## SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Margaret A. Connolly School recognizes that parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning. We encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's education at school and to become full partners in school educational planning and operations. Consistent with the parent involvement goals:

1. The Building Principal and appropriate staff shall convene at an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I programs, and to explain Title I requirements and the right of the parents to be involved. All parents of children participating in a Title I program will be invited to the meeting.
2. The school staff shall offer a flexible number of meetings to provide parents the opportunity to meet with school staff and otherwise participate in their child's education. These meetings shall be held at flexible times (e.g. morning or evening) and/or in highly accessible places.
3. The school will provide parents with timely information about Title I programs. School Staff will also describe and explain the curriculum in use at the school, the types of academic assessment that will be used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels the students are expected to meet. Parents may also request regular meetings with school staff to make suggestions and to participate, as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their child. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practical.
4. The school staff shall involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including the planning, review and improvement of the school's parent involvement policy.

### Building Capacity for Parental Involvement and Engagement

To build parent capacity for strong parental involvement and engagement to improve their child's academy achievement, the school will, at a minimum:

1. Assist parents in understanding such topics as state's academic content and student achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, how to monitor their child's progress and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child. To achieve this objective the school offers:
  - a. Parent Orientation for Third Grade Students
  - b. PTA Meetings with Childcare provided
  - c. Open School Night: Grade Level Expectations will be discussed by principal and classroom teachers. Informational Title I meeting discussing funds and how they are used

- d. Parent-Teacher Conferences, Grades 3-5: Daytime and Evening Sessions  
Available with translation services
  - e. Title I funds may be used to remove barriers to education as outlined in Homeless Children Policy 5151 which may be found on the district webpage
- 2. Provide materials and training to help parents work with their child's academic achievement. To achieve this objective, the school will provide:
  - a. Parent information meetings on meeting New York State assessments, learning standards, school curricula and student safety. To enable parents' participation, meetings may be offered at different times in the day or evening.
  - b. Coordinate with public libraries regarding curriculum-based materials and use of library to engage parents in workshops connected with academic achievement.
  - c. Comprehensive school website featuring instructional information, announcements, and e-mail access to all teaching staff.
- 3. Educate its teachers and other staff in understanding the value and importance of a parent's contributions and on how to:
  - a. Reach out to communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners;
  - b. Implement and coordinate parent programs;
  - c. Build ties between parents and the school; and
  - d. Respond with sensitivity to parental concerns.
- 4. Provide timely information related to school and parent-related programs, meetings and other activities to the parents of children participating in Title I programs in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats, upon request, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

#### Coordination of Parent and Family Engagement Strategies

The school will, where appropriate and necessary, coordinate and integrate its parent and family engagement program activities and strategies with those of other applicable programs. The school will do this by informing the public of the referral process.

## M.A. CONNOLLY SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

To help our children achieve, we agree to abide by the following conditions during the current school year:

### School Responsibilities

The school will:

Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment;  
Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to your child's academic achievement;  
Provide parents reasonable access to staff; and  
Provide parents with opportunities to volunteer and participate in school and/or class activities.

### Parent Responsibilities/Student

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

Monitor my child's attendance and tardiness;  
Make sure that homework is completed;  
Limit screen time and the amount of television my child watches;  
Participate in decisions regarding my children's education;  
Promote positive use of my child's extracurricular time; and Stay informed about my child's education and communicate with the school regularly.

### Student Responsibilities

As a student, I will share the responsibility to improve my grades, and agree to:

Do homework every day;  
Read at least 20 minutes a day outside of school;  
Give to my parents all notices and information received by me from school every day:

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date