

Title I Parent Involvement Policy and Parent-School Compact for BelovED Community Charter School

Section I: Title I Parent Involvement Policy

Educational research shows a positive correlation between effective parental involvement and student achievement. The overall aim of this policy is to develop a parent involvement program that will ensure effective involvement of parents and community in our school. Therefore BelovED Community Charter School, [in compliance with the Section 1118 of Title I, Part A of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act], is responsible for creating and implementing a parent involvement policy to strengthen the connection and support of student achievement between our school and the families. BelovED Community Charter School policy is designed to keep parents informed by actively involving them in planning and decision-making in support of the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to actively participate on the PTO, and Title I Parent Advisory Council, as trained volunteers and welcomed members of our school community. BelovED Community Charter School will support parents and families of Title I students by:

1. Providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their achievement level (e.g., literacy, math and use of technology);
2. Providing parents with the information and training needed to effectively become involved in planning and decision making in support of the education of their children;
3. Fostering a caring and effective home-school partnership to ensure that parents can effectively support and monitor their child's progress;
4. Providing assistance to parents in understanding City, State and Federal standards and assessments;
5. Sharing information about school and parent related programs, meetings and other activities in a format, and in languages that parents can understand.
6. Providing professional development opportunities for school staff with the assistance of parents to improve outreach, communication skills and cultural competency in order to build stronger ties between parents and other members of our school community;

BelovED Community Charter School's Parent Involvement Policy was designed based upon a careful assessment of the needs of all parents/guardians, including parents/guardians of English Language Learners and students with disabilities. Our school community will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parent involvement policy with Title I parents to improve the academic quality of our school with the Title I Parent Advisory Council. The findings of the evaluation through school surveys and feedback forms will be used to design strategies to more effectively meet the needs of parents, and enhance the school's Title I program. This information will be maintained by the school. To increase and improve parent involvement and school quality, BelovED Community Charter will:

- Actively involve and engage parents in the planning, review and evaluation of the effectiveness of the school's Title I program including the implementation of the school's Title I Parent Involvement Policy.
- Engage parents in discussion and decisions regarding the required Title I set-aside funds, which are allocated directly to schools to promote parent involvement, including family literacy and parenting skills;
- Ensure that the Title I funds allocated for parent involvement are utilized to implement activities and strategies as described in our Parent Involvement Plan.
- Maintain a Parent Coordinator (or a dedicated staff person(s)) to serve as a liaison between the school and families. The Parent Coordinator or a dedicated staff person(s) will provide parent workshops based on the assessed needs of the parents of children who attend our school and will work to ensure that our school environment is welcoming and inviting to all parents. The Parent Coordinator will also maintain a log of events and activities planned for parents each month for school reporting purposes. The parent coordinator may provide the following services through the year;

- Conduct parent workshops with topics that may include: parenting skills, understanding educational accountability grade-level curriculum and assessment expectations; literacy, accessing community and support services; and technology training to build parents' capacity to help their children at home;
- Provide opportunities for parents to help them understand the accountability system (e.g., NCLB/State accountability system, student proficiency levels, Annual School Report Card, Progress Report,)
- Host the required Title I Parent Annual Meeting on or before December 1st of each school year to advise parents of children participating in the Title I program about the school's Title I funded program(s), their right to be involved in the program and the parent involvement requirements under Title I, Part A, Section 1118 and other applicable sections under the No Child Left Behind Act;
- Schedule additional parent meetings (e.g., trimester meetings, with flexible times, such as meetings in the morning or evening, to share information about the school's educational program and other initiatives and allow parents to provide suggestions;
- Translate all critical school documents and provide interpretation during meetings and events as needed; and
- Help organize a Title I Parent Fair/Event where all parents are invited to attend formal presentations and workshops that address their student academic skill needs and what parents can do to help.

BelovED Community Charter will further encourage school-level parental involvement by:

- Hosting educational family events/activities throughout the school year;
- Encouraging meaningful parent participation on School Leadership Teams, PTO or Title I Parent Advisory Council;
- Establishing a Parent Resource Center or lending library; instructional materials for parents.
- Developing a plan for future events to support, men asserting leadership in education for their children. parents/guardians, grandparents and foster parents;
- Encouraging more parents to engage as school volunteers;
- Providing written and verbal progress reports that are periodically given to keep parents informed of their children's progress;
- Developing and distributing a school newsletter or web publication designed to keep parents informed about school activities and student progress; and
- Providing school planners/folders/mailings for regular written communication between /teacher and the home in a format, and to the extent practicable in the languages that parents can understand;

Section II: School-Parent Compact

BelovED Community Charter School, [in compliance with the Section 1118 of Title I, Part A of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act] is developing a School-Parent Compact to strengthen the connection and support of student achievement between the school and the families. BelovED Community Charter School staff and the parents of students participating in activities and programs funded by Title I, agree that this Compact will outline how parents, the entire school staff and students will share responsibility for improved academic achievement and the means by which a school-parent partnership will be developed to ensure that all children achieve State Standards and Assessments.

School Responsibilities:

- Provide high quality curriculum and instruction consistent with State Standards to enable participating children to meet the State's Standards and Assessments by:
- Using academic learning time efficiently;
- Implementing a curriculum aligned to State Standards;
- offering high quality instruction in all content areas; and providing instruction by highly qualified teachers and when this does not occur, notifying parents as required by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act;
- Support home-school relationships and improve communication by:
 - Conducting parent-teacher conferences during the school year which the individual child's achievement will be discussed.
 - Convening a Title I Parent Annual Meeting (prior to December 1st of each school year) for parents of students participating in the Title I program to inform them of the school's Title I status and funded programs and their right to be involved;
 - Arranging additional meetings at other flexible times (e.g., morning, evening) and providing (if necessary and funds are available) transportation, child care or home visits for those parents who cannot attend a regular meeting;
 - Respecting the rights of limited English proficient families to receive translated documents and interpretation services in order to ensure participation in the child's education;
 - Involving parents in the planning process to review, evaluate and improve the existing Title I programs, Parent Involvement Policy and this Compact;
 - Arranging opportunities for parents to receive training to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities;
 - Advising parents of their right to file a complaint under the Department's General Complaint Procedures and consistent with the No Child Left Behind Title I requirement for Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and Title I programs;

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

- Monitor my child's attendance and ensure that my child arrives to school on time as well as follow the appropriate procedures to inform the school when my child is absent;
- Ensure that my child comes to school rested by setting a schedule for bedtime based on the needs of my child and his/her age;
- Check and assist my child in completing homework tasks, when necessary; Actively support increased study habits developed for long term student learning and achievement.
- read to my child and/or discuss what my child is reading each day (for a minimum of 15 minutes)
- promote positive use of extracurricular time such as, extended day learning opportunities, clubs, team sports and/or quality family time;
- encourage my child to follow school rules and regulations and discuss this Compact with my child;
- volunteer in my child's school or assist from my home as time permits;
- participate, as appropriate, in the decisions relating to my child's education. I will also:
 - Communicate with my child's teacher about educational needs and stay informed about their education by prompting reading and responding to all notices received from the school or district;
 - Respond to surveys, feedback forms and notices when requested;
 - Become involved in the development, implementation, evaluation and revision to the Parent Involvement Policy and this Compact;
 - Take part in the school's PTO or serve to the extent possible on advisory groups (e.g., school Title I Parent Advisory Councils,)

- Share responsibility for the improved academic achievement of my child;

Student Responsibilities:

- Attend school regularly and arrive on time;
- Complete my homework and submit all assignments on time;
- Follow the school rules and be responsible for my actions;
- Show respect for myself, other people and property;
- Try to resolve disagreements or conflicts peacefully;
- Always try my best to learn
- Support BelovED Philosophy of caring, sharing and community involvement to make my classroom, school and place I live a better place.

This Parent Involvement Policy (including the School-Parent Compact) was updated on August 15, 2013 and is available for review on the School Web site.