

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

*The DPSA understands that the primary caregivers of children may include parents, step-parents, grandparents, extended family members, foster parents, legal guardians, and/or other individuals. For simplicity, the term "parent(s)" will be used throughout this document. It is intended to be used inclusively - referring to all types of primary caregivers.*

The Duluth Public Schools Academy recognizes the critical role of families in the academic achievement of children. Parental involvement in the education of children enhances student achievement and helps to create a positive school environment. In order to ensure the involvement of parents and to support a partnership between our schools, parents, and community, the Duluth Public Schools Academy, or its designee will:

- create a welcoming environment, conducive to learning, and supportive of comprehensive parent involvement programs.
- create multiple, innovative, and flexible opportunities for parent participation.
- invite and encourage all parents to participate in parent involvement programs.
- ensure that information related to school and parent programming is communicated on a regular basis, in a variety of formats (i.e. weekly school newsletter, weekly classroom newsletter, web site postings) by a method parents can access and a language/format they can understand.
- develop, with the parents of enrolled children, a School-Parent Compact that outlines the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of school staff, students, and parents in academic achievement.
- encourage parents to attend conferences (QLCs) at least three times a year to meet with their child(ren) and his/her teacher(s) to discuss progress. Final quarter progress will be provided to parents in writing at the end of the year.
- ensure that teachers and staff are accessible to parents at times other than conferences, allowing parents to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children as needed.
- provide annual meetings, workshops, and/or written information to the parents of enrolled children on such topics as: (1) the school's curriculum; (2) the proficiency levels students are expected to meet each year; (3) Minnesota academic content and Minnesota student academic achievement standards; (4) how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; (5) federal, state, and local academic assessment used to measure student progress; and (6) the requirements of parent involvement programs under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the school's participation under that part of the Act, and the right of parents to be involved.
- ensure that the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) provides input to the staff and Board on matters related to parental involvement.
- provide professional development to all staff in the area of parent involvement.

- involve parents on an annual basis in the process of program development and review including: (1) the development of a plan to improve the academic achievement of the disadvantaged (Title I, Section 1112); (2) school review and improvement (Title I, Section 1116); (3) the development of a schoolwide program under Section 1114(b) (2); (4) the evaluation of parent involvement policy and programs (Title I, Section 1118); and (5) an annual customer satisfaction survey.
- provide reasonable support (i.e. interpreters, transportation, childcare, home visits) that allows parents to participate in parent involvement programs upon request.
- provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents of migratory children, and parents with other special needs.