

# Gateway MST Middle School



## School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2021-2022

Gateway MST Middle School recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire time the child spends in school. To support the goals of the school effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. Parents are an important component of a school's ability to provide for the educational success of their children. The school endeavors to meet the diverse needs of engaging parents are essential to improve student achievement and that the school fosters and supports parental involvement. This plan will be distributed to parents annually and be revised periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

All meetings, events, and activities will be subject to change or implemented virtually or in a way that supports social distancing as we adhere to the current COVID-19 legislation and guidelines that are in effect.

### Strategies for Involvement

- ✦ Gateway MST Middle will host a Welcome Back event, to be held in August, prior to school starting, for parents to meet and discuss the new curriculum. Parents will be able to acquire important information about the upcoming school year, familiarize/reintroduce themselves with the building, through virtual and in-person tours as regulated by state and school mandates, and we will provide students with school materials while supplies last.
- ✦ Gateway MST Middle will hold an annual Title I meeting to be held by the last week of August to inform parents of Gateway MST Middle's participation in Title I programs. We will explain all of the Title I mandates including: Parent's Right to Know, Every Student Succeeds Act, Complaint Resolution Procedures, and the Title I Parental Involvement Plan. Our Principal and Family and Community Specialist will host this meeting. We will conduct a second Title I meeting in the second semester for families to receive the same information.

- ✦ Gateway MST Middle will hold PTO meetings monthly. Involved parents along with any participating school staff will share ideas and collaborate for school improvement. The PTO will assist the Principal with all fundraising efforts. All funds raised from fundraising efforts will in return be used as needed for school/building improvements, student achievement activities, and student motivational/engagement resources, not covered by already allocated funds.
- ✦ Gateway MST Middle will provide parents an opportunity to participate in the evaluating, revising, and/or amending of the Parent Involvement Plan and the Three-Way Compact. These meetings will be held in the month of March of each school year and our Principal and Family and Community Specialist will host these meetings. Prior to these meetings, parents and stakeholders will receive the current plans and all updated Title I mandates to review.
- ✦ Parents will have access to a Parent Resource Room by appointment to utilize computers to fill out applications, create resumes or receive additional assistance from Family Community Specialist.
- ✦ Parents that register for the Parent Portal will have round the clock access to their students' grades and any comments from teachers.

#### Shared Responsibilities for High Student Achievement

Gateway MST Middle administration will work toward retaining highly qualified principals and teachers for all classrooms; provide instruction, materials, and high-quality professional development which incorporates the latest research. Gateway MST Middle will maintain a safe and positive climate; and encourage frequent communication between home, school and students, by doing the following:

- ✦ School-Parent-Student Compact and Parental Involvement plan to be disseminated within the first two weeks of school;
- ✦ Parent/student handbook to be disseminated during registration or prior to second week of school;
- ✦ Report Cards/ Progress Reports to be disseminated every four weeks;
- ✦ School Newsletter disseminated monthly

Family and Community Specialist will distribute the newsletter to staff to pass on to their respective students.

- ✓ Gateway MST Middle teachers will have high expectations for all students; they will assign homework daily and provide information for student achievement.
- ✓ Gateway MST Middle parents will talk to their children about activities each day; help their children resolve conflicts in a positive non-violent way; foster high regards for academic achievement; seek information regarding their children's progress by conferring with the teacher;

attend parent teacher conferences and all other meetings concerning the progress of your children; an encourage their children to follow all school rules and regulations.

- ✓ Gateway MST Middle students will attend school every day unless they're ill; believe that they will learn; complete assignments and return homework on time; accept responsibility for their actions; listen well in class and follow directions; and do whatever it takes to be a successful student.

### Expanding Opportunities for Parental Involvement

Gateway MST Middle Parent Involvement Plan, established in collaboration with parents, includes programs and practices that will enhance parental involvement and reflects the specific needs of students and their families. The Parental Involvement Plan involves the parent in a variety of roles. The plan recognizes that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful. To encourage this communication, Gateway MST Middle has a Family and Community Specialist onsite so parents can receive all information needed. The office of the Family and Community Specialist is located in the main office and normal availability is Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 3:00PM to answer any questions you may have regarding parental involvement in the building.

*It is the goal of Gateway MST Middle to assure an ongoing partnership between families, communities, and the school. We believe such a partnership is fundamental to the academic and social success of students. From this partnership a support will evolve that will have a positive effect on student achievement and will produce a sense of cooperative responsibility in ensuring excellence in the educational process.*

Principal



Date

8/27/2021