

School Parent Family Engagement Policy

Washington Montessori

In addition to the St. Louis Public School's Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Washington Montessori, being a Title 1 school has developed and distributed to parents a written School Parent and Family Engagement Policy. This plan has been updated to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. It is available in a format and language readily understood by parents and district personnel.

This plan addresses the following requirements:

Strategies for Involvement

Washington Montessori will:

- Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time (AM & PM) to which all parents of participating children at Washington Montessori shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation, to explain the requirements, and the right of the parents to be involved.
- ✓ Offer flexible meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and provide child care, or home visits, as such services related to Parent and Family Engagement
- ✓ Provide parents with timely information about Title 1 programs.
 - Newsletters with school meetings and activities, community projects and district information will be sent home every two months.
 - 2. Reminder notices will be sent home and via phone calls by School Reach within two days prior to an event.
 - 3. As soon as Assessment results are available, information will be available and interpreted for parents via parent meetings.
 - 4. An explanation of the district's curriculum, the forms of assessment used to measure students' progress and the proficiency levels which students are expected to meet will be discussed upon request.
 - 5. Respond within 3-5 days, if possible, to suggestions made by parents during meetings.
- ✓ Provide surveys at the annual Title 1 meetings for parent suggestions so that we will know how to serve families better.
- ✓ At the end of each meeting, parents will be provided with an evaluation form to determine where our strengths and weaknesses are for those particular activities and how to improve them.
- ✓ Include comments from parents of Washington Montessori who find aspects of the School-wide Plan and School Parent and Engagement Policy unsatisfactory when submitted to the school or district.

Shared Responsibilities for high Student Academic Achievement

As a component of the school level Title 1 School Parent and Family Engagement Policy, Washington Montessori has jointly developed with parents of participating children, a School-Parent Compact. The compact has outlined how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for

improving student achievement and describe how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve academically.

The School—Parent-Compact of Washington Montessori:

- ✓ Describes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment by:
 - 1. Providing highly qualified principals and staff.
 - 2. Maintaining a safe and positive climate.
- ✓ Describe parent's responsibility for supporting the child's learning by:
 - 1. Making sure the child attends school daily and is prepared to learn.
 - 2. Monitoring adequate amount of TV time and making sure homework is complete.
 - 3. Volunteering in their child's classroom.
- ✓ Describes opportunities for the parents and teachers to communicate on an ongoing basis by:
 - 1. Providing formal parent conferences twice a year as it relates to their child's achievement.
 - 2. Frequent reports will be sent home pertaining to their child's progress.
 - 3. Providing reasonable access to staff, volunteer opportunities, participation and observation in their child's classroom.

Building Capacity for Parental Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership with Washington Montessori, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, the St. Louis Public Schools and Washington Montessori will:

- Assist parents in understanding the challenging State academic standards, how to monitor a child's progress, and work with educators.
- ✓ Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy).
- ✓ Assist participating parents with topics such as: workshops within the school year on understanding the Academic Standards, MAP test, and local assessments.
- ✓ Educate school personnel on the value of parental involvement.
- ✓ Provide information on Parent Resource Centers for parents to learn more about child development and child rearing upon request.
- ✓ Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- ✓ Coordinate and integrate parent engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parent engagement.

The St. Louis Public Schools and Washington Montessori may:

✓ Based on parent survey, meeting times and locations will maximize parental involvement and participation.