

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE ACADEMY PROGRAM

Reference: Sec. 1112, 1118 ESEA
MCL 380.1294

The Board of Directors recognizes and values parents and families as children's first teachers and decision-makers in education. The Board believes that student learning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the school and the student's parents and family. Such a partnership between the home and school and greater involvement of parents in the education of their children generally result in higher academic achievement, improved student behavior, and reduced absenteeism.

The term "families" is used in order to include children's primary caregivers, who are not their biological parents, such as foster caregivers, grandparents, and other family members.

Through this policy, the Board directs the establishment of a Parental Involvement Plan by which a school-partnership can be established and provided to the parent of each child in the Academy. The plan must encompass parent participation, through meetings and other forms of communication. The Parental Involvement Plan shall reflect the Board's commitment to the following:

A. **Relationships with Families**

1. cultivating school environments that are welcoming, supportive, and student-centered;
2. providing professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships between families and schools;^{1,2}
3. providing family activities that relate to various cultures, languages, practices, and customs, and bridge economic and cultural barriers;^{1,2}
4. providing coordination, technical support and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing family involvement activities.²

B. **Effective Communication**

1. providing information to families to support the proper health, safety, and well-being of their children;
2. providing information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;^{1,2}
3. promoting regular and open communication between school personnel and students' family members;
4. communicating with families in a format and language that is understandable, to the extent practicable;^{1,2}
5. providing information and involving families in monitoring student progress;²

6. providing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Michigan's academic standards, State and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions;^{1,2}
7. preparing families to be involved in meaningful discussions and meetings with school staff.^{1,2}

C. **Volunteer Opportunities**

1. providing volunteer opportunities for families to support their children's school activities;²
2. supporting other needs, such as transportation and child care, to enable families to participate in school-sponsored family involvement events.²

D. **Learning at Home**

1. offering training and resources to help families learn strategies and skills to support at-home learning and success in school;^{1,2}
2. working with families to establish learning goals and help their children accomplish these goals;
3. helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home.¹

E. **Involving Families in Decision Making and Advocacy**

4. involving families as partners in the process of school review and continuous improvement planning;²
5. involving families in the development of its Academy-wide parent involvement policy and plan, and distributing the policy and plan to families.^{1,2}

F. **Collaborating with the Community**

1. building constructive partnerships and connecting families with community-based programs and other community resources;^{1,2}
2. coordinating and integrating family involvement programs and activities with Academy initiatives and community-based programs that encourage and support families' participation in their children's education, growth, and development.^{1,2}

Implementation

The Superintendent, employed by the Board, will provide for a comprehensive plan to engage parents, families, and community members in a partnership in support of each student's academic achievement, the Academy's continuous improvement, and individual school improvement plans. The plan will be distributed to all parents and students through publication in the Student Handbook or other suitable means. The plan will provide for annual evaluation, with the involvement of parents and families, of the plan's effectiveness and identification of barriers to participation by parents and families. Evaluation findings will be used in the annual review of the Parent and Family Involvement policy and to improve the effectiveness of the Academy plan.

¹Indicates IDEA 2004 Section 650 & 644 parent involvement requirements

²Indicates Title I Section 1118 parent involvement requirements

[NOTE: Schools should select all footnoted () options included in this template in order to have a policy that meets the requirements of State and Federal law and program requirements of Title I.]

FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Legal name

First Middle Last

List all previous names

(maiden, previous married names, etc.)

Date of Birth _____ Gender: Male Female

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Cell _____

Other Phone _____

Email _____

Please check one:

Parent/ Grandparent/ Community Other-Explain _____

If you have a child attending Charlton Heston Academy, please list below:

Child(rens) full name(s) and Grade(s)

_____ Grade _____

_____ Grade _____

_____ Grade _____

_____ Grade _____

Please check any of the following areas of interest:

Field Trip Chaperone Presentation Panelist Recess Assistant

Classroom Helper Reading Tutor Math Tutor Lunchroom Assistant

Library Helper Watch D.O.G.S. Dismissal Procedures Afterschool Program

Other _____

School/Office Use Only

Background Check _____

Code _____

Date Approved _____

Volunteer Application

Completion of one application will allow you to volunteer in all Charlton Heston Academy-sponsored events.

I understand that a State Criminal History Background Clearance is required and that my service as a volunteer and/or community partner depends on approval. I release Charlton Heston Academy from any liability as a result of receiving any information. I have received, reviewed and understand the district Parent Volunteer Policy, and will abide by all safety and confidentiality laws, rules and expectations set forth by Charlton Heston Academy.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return all completed forms to the school in which you would like to volunteer, or to the volunteer office at: CHA 1350 N. St. Helen Rd., St. Helen, MI 48656 or at 989-632-3393 (fax). If you have any questions, please call 989-632-3390.

Charlton Heston Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities.

VOLUNTEER APPLICANT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER

Please answer **YES** or **NO** to each listed item. If the answer is **YES** to any item, explain in the area provided, indicate the charge or finding, the date, and the court(s) involved. If you do not understand the following questions or if you are uncertain as to your answer to those questions, do not complete this form until such time as you are certain as to your response.

1. Have you **ever** been convicted of any crime? The term "**convicted**" means all adverse dispositions, including a finding of guilty, a plea of guilty, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, an Alford plea, stipulation to the facts, a deferred or suspended sentence, or a deferred prosecution.
_____ Yes _____ No. If yes, explain:

2. Have you **ever** had findings made against you in any civil adjudicative proceeding? "**Civil adjudicative proceeding**" means any judicial or administrative adjudicative proceeding that results in a finding of, or upholds an agency finding of, domestic violence, abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or exploitation or financial exploitation of a child or vulnerable adult. "**Civil adjudicative proceeding**" also includes judicial or administrative orders that become final due to the failure of the alleged perpetrator to timely exercise a right afforded to him/her to administratively challenge findings made by the Department of Human Services.

_____ Yes _____ No. If yes, explain:

I agree that if I have provided false, misleading, or incomplete information, the CHA may, in its sole discretion, disqualify me from volunteering or terminate my opportunity to volunteer with the District. I further agree that if at any time in the future I am convicted of any crime, have findings made against me in a civil adjudicative proceeding I will immediately notify the Superintendent. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Michigan that the foregoing is true, correct, and complete. It is understood that this statement and record become the property of Charlton Heston Academy. A criminal history check on volunteer applicants may be requested through the Michigan State Policy, federal law enforcement agencies, or other at any time.

Print Name _____

Volunteer Signature _____ Date _____

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO VOLUNTEER AT CHARLTON HESTON ACADEMY.
FOR LEGAL PURPOSES, THE INFORMATION WILL BE MAINTAINED BY THE DISTRICT.**