

EDISON BETHUNE CHARTER ACADEMY

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Edison Bethune Charter Academy (“EBCA” or the “Charter School”) has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy (“Policy”) with input from Title I parents and families. EBCA has distributed the Policy to parents of Title I students by posting it on the school website, providing a description of the policy in the Student-Parent Handbook, and having copies in the main office to provide upon request. This Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

Charter School Expectations and Objectives

In establishing the Charter School’s expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, EBCA has established the following practices:

1. EBCA involves parents and family members in the joint development of the Charter School’s Parent and Family Engagement Plan through:
 - Community meetings involving the Charter School’s Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - The School Advisory Board
2. EBCA provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity within the Charter School in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
 - Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
 - Charter School communications
 - Development of the Local Control and Accountability Plan
3. EBCA coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs including:
 - 5 CCR Section 11308 (English Learner Advisory Committee (“ELAC”))
 - Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
 - Education Code Section 52059.5 et seq. (Local Control and Accountability Plan)
4. EBCA conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Policy in improving the academic quality at the Charter School. This evaluation includes:
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Revisiting the Parent and Family Engagement Policy annually to determine any

needed changes to content and coverage

5. EBCA conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of barriers to greater participation by parents/families (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).
 - Consultation with ELAC
 - Consultation with PAC
 - Consultation with the School Advisory Board
 - Review of Local Control and Accountability Plan engagement
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Charter School communications

6. EBCA conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with Charter School personnel and teachers.
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Consultation with ELAC
 - Consultation with PAC
 - Review of Local Control and Accountability Plan engagement

7. EBCA conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of strategies to support successful Charter School and family interactions.
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Consultation with ELAC
 - Consultation with PAC
 - Review of Local Control and Accountability Plan engagement

8. EBCA uses the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The leadership team evaluates the following data to make the needed adjustments to increase effective parental and family engagement:
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Consultation with ELAC
 - Review of Local Control and Accountability Plan engagement

9. EBCA involves parents in the activities of the Charter School to adequately represent the needs of the population.
 - ELAC
 - Charter School communications

Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents in the Title I program at EBCA, the following practices have been established:

1. EBCA convenes an annual meeting to inform parents of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of parents to be involved in the Title I program.
 - Charter School communications
2. EBCA offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I parents, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
 - Invitations are sent out to all parents/guardians
 - Electronic invitations are translated into a language that parents understand through online communication systems
 - Notification of meetings will be posted in a timely manner on ParentSquare, Facebook Page, and the Charter School's monthly newsletter
3. EBCA involves parents of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Charter School's Title I programs and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. This is completed through the following:
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Review of Local Control and Accountability Plan engagement
 - Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
 - PAC meetings
4. EBCA provides parents of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs including:
 - A description in the Student-Parent Handbook
 - Board-Approved Policies available at a parent's request
 - Charter School communications
 - Accessible information on the Charter School website
5. EBCA provides parents of Title I students with a description and explanation of the curriculum used at the Charter School, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - Student-Parent Handbook
 - Charter School communications
 - Accessible information on the Charter School website
6. If requested by parents of Title I students, EBCA provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the parents to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
 - Monthly parent/guardian meetings will be held with electronic invitations being sent out to all parents/guardians
 - Local Control and Accountability Plan Educational Partner information

meeting(s)

The Policy must be updated periodically to meet changing needs of parents and the Charter School. If EBCA has a process in place for involving parents in planning and designing the Charter School's programs, the school may use that process if it includes adequate representation of parents of Title I children.

School-Parent Compact

EBCA distributes to parents of Title I students a School-Parent Compact (the "Compact"). The Compact, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire Charter School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the Charter School and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students:

1. EBCA's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to meet the challenging State academic standards.
2. The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, volunteering in the classroom, and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
3. The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to volunteer and participate in their child's class; and opportunities to observe classroom activities and ensuring regular communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

The School-Parent Compact is included in the Student-Parent Handbook and is completed by students, parents, and teachers. Completed forms are kept in the main office. A copy of the School-Parent Compact is included on page seven of this policy.

Building Capacity for Involvement

EBCA engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the Charter School. The Charter School supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, EBCA has established the following practices.

1. EBCA provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding challenging state academic standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children. This assistance is provided in:
 - Charter School communications
 - Parent/Student/Teacher meetings

- Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
2. EBCA provides Title I parents with materials and training, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement. These trainings are included in:
 - Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
 - Charter School communications
 3. With the assistance of Title I parents, EBCA educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and in how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the Charter School. This education includes:
 - Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
 - School-sponsored events
 - Charter School communications
 4. EBCA coordinates and integrates the Title I parental involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. These activities include:
 - Parent/guardian trainings/workshops
 - School-sponsored events
 - Charter School communications
 5. EBCA distributes information related to Charter School and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand.
 - Monthly parent/guardian meetings are held monthly with invitations being sent out to all parents/guardians
 - Electronic invitations are translated into a language that parents understand through online communication systems
 - Notification of meetings will be posted in a timely manner on ParentSquare, Facebook Page, and the Charter School's monthly newsletter
 6. EBCA provides support for parental involvement activities requested by Title I parents including:
 - Parent/guardian surveys
 - Annual Title I information and feedback meeting

Accessibility

EBCA provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents and family members, including parents/family with limited English proficiency, parents/family with disabilities, and parents/family of migratory students. Information and school reports are

provided in a format and language that parents/family understand, including by:

- Using a digital format that can be translated with the use of technology
- Presenting information in a way that is understandable by parents/guardians and families
- Presenting information visually and verbally, as appropriate

School-Parent Compact Agreement

Vision Statement: We, the learning community of EBCA, believe all children can learn. By receiving a world class education, all students will be academically prepared to compete globally.

Mission statement: EBCA’s mission is to provide all students with a rigorous standard-based curriculum to achieve success. Every child is provided with resources and opportunities to reach their individual potential through academic preparation and personal responsibility. Working as a team of parents, staff, EBCA is dedicated to providing a world class education to ensure the academic advancement of every child.

As a student, I pledge to:	As a parent, I pledge to:	As a school staff, we pledge to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend school regularly and only miss school when I am sick. • Be to school on time and not be tardy. • Work as hard as I can to learn. • Wear my school uniform properly. • Discuss with my parents/guardians what I am learning in school. • Complete all school assignments carefully. • Work with my teacher to plan my learning goals. • Understand that I am responsible for my learning. • Ask for help when I don’t understand. • Follow all school rules. • Agree to follow the Student Pledge and the Code of Conduct. • Read at least 30 minutes every night outside of charter school time. • Read the Parent-Student Handbook. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure my child is to school no later than 7:55 am each school day. • Make sure my child is wearing the appropriate school uniform. • Make sure my child attends school each day unless my child is sick and send a note or call the office explaining my child’s absence. • Provide a quiet study time and place for my child to do homework at home. • Talk daily with my child about school experiences. • Help my child understand and follow the EBCA School rules. • Make sure my child understands and demonstrates the expectations of the EBCA Code of Conduct. • Read the Parent-Student Handbook. • Monitor the amount of television my child is watching. • Attend all Parent-Teacher Conferences. • Attend Curriculum Nights to better understand how to work with my child. • Stay informed about my child’s education by reading all notices sent home by the charter school, and allowing my child to attend any needed after school tutoring or intervention sessions when possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide motivating and research-based best practices. • Provide appropriate, state adopted curriculum for each child. • Make time available for appointments to meet with parents when requested. • Explain expectations, instructional goals, and grading systems to students and parents. • Communicate frequently with families. • Hold parent-teacher conferences • Send out quarterly report cards and mid-quarter progress report cards. • Consider the strengths and needs of individual students when planning instruction. • Provide Curriculum Nights to allow parents to learn how to help their students. • Offer resources that will help students be successful academically, socially, and emotionally. • Create a safe, welcoming, clean environment for students and parents. • Work with parents/guardians who students are tardy, or frequently absent, to help them get the student to school on time and regularly.
<hr/> <p>Student Signature</p>	<hr/> <p>Parent Signature</p>	<hr/> <p>Teacher Signature</p>