

Early Light Academy
Parental Involvement Policy
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
Section 1118

A. Local Educational Agency Policy

Early Light Academy (hereafter, ELA) has always regarded parental involvement vital to the success of students at the school. As a Title I targeted Assistance school we are committed to close the achievement gap for all students with particular attention paid to economically disadvantaged, disabled, limited English proficiency, limited literacy, or any racial or ethnic minority background. ELA involved parents in the development of this written policy. The policy describes both parent involvement expectations and ELA's role in involving parents, providing support for parents, and coordinating parent involvement.

B. School Parental Involvement Policy

Schools will jointly develop with parents of participating children a written parental involvement policy describing the means for carrying out the requirements outlined in Section 1118, subsections (c) through (f) of the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001". The purpose of an effective parental involvement policy is to improve all students' academic achievement.

Our school's policy includes the following:

- Ways parents will be kept informed and assisted in understanding expected academic standards at the state and school level.
- Ways parents will be provided materials and training to help them work with their children to improve achievement, such as literacy, numeracy and technology training.
- Ways educators and parents will work together, reach out, and communicate with each other in order to realize more fully the value and contributions that parental involvement adds to the success of the school.
- Ways in which appropriate coordination of parent involvement activities will take the place with after school activities or any programs in which the school may participate or assist.
- Ways in which ongoing parent input for other activities, requests, suggestions, ideas or concerns might be received.

C. Policy Involvement

At the beginning of the school year, our school will distribute an updated parent involvement policy to patrons. The policy will be written in understandable language and, to the extent practicable, provided in language the parents can understand. In addition, an annual meeting will

be held and inform parents of that school's parent involvement policy and the school-parent compact. Other parent meetings will be held throughout the school year to provide parents with ongoing information, training, and materials to help them work with their children in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and technology. ELA will hold Student Education Plan (SEP) conferences at least twice a year. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and expected student proficiency levels will be shared with parents.

Student progress will be addressed and goals will be set to further student academic achievement.

D. Building Capacity for Involvement

- Consistent correspondence will be sent with ideas for parents to help their students academically.
- SEP conferences will be designed to disseminate information about the prior year's academic state core testing as well as progress throughout the current school year.
- Progress reports will be used to communicate academic performance throughout the school year.
- School websites will provide parents with information concerning their student's education.
- The ELA School LAND Trust Committee will allow for communication between the community members and school personnel.
- ELA will coordinate information gathered from needs assessments to drive parent programs and instruction.
- ELA will provide important educational documents written in understandable language and, to the extent practicable, provide in a language the parents can understand.
- The LEA will coordinate available funding to provide necessary literacy training.
- All efforts will be made to schedule school meetings, and SEPs in order to maximize parental involvement and participation.
- Annual input from parents will be gathered through the use of a needs assessment and evaluation as well as other feedback from the community.

E. Shared Responsibility for High Academic Achievement – School Parent Compact

1. School Responsibilities:

- Schools will provide quality curriculum/instruction through the use of highly qualified staff as well as research-based materials. Ongoing professional development will take place to improve the quality of teaching.

- School will provide opportunities for parent involvement/volunteering.
- Schools will hold SEP conferences at least twice each year. Student progress will be addressed and goals will be set to further student academic achievement.
- Schools will provide parents with progress reports on a regular basis along with newsletters.

2. Parent Responsibilities:

- Parents will participate in their student’s education by monitoring student attendance and participating in SEP conferences.
- Parents will monitor homework completion through a daily check of the student homework and progress reports.
- Parents will read with students, encourage students to read independently, and promote educational opportunities through school-sponsored reading programs.
- Parents will be encouraged to provide positive learning experiences for their children during extra curricular and out-of-school time.
- Parents will be encouraged to volunteer in classrooms.

F. Accessibility

Specific attention will be given to service provided for:

Limited English proficient parents

Parents with disabilities

Parents of migratory children

G. Review

An annual evaluation of parental policies and practices will take place to determine the effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools involved. Results will be used to design strategies for more effective parental involvement.

Mia Prazen - ELA Board President

Date