



Parental Engagement Policy

Valley Academy Charter (VAC) School believes parental engagement is an important part of each child's educational program, and that such involvement may result in higher student achievement and better social behavior, in addition to more satisfaction for parents and teachers alike. This policy was jointly developed/revised with parent input.

Valley Academy Charter School will implement the following:

- a. The school will provide programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents. These programs, activities and procedures will be planned and accomplished with meaningful consultation of parents of participating children.
- b. Parents and family members will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of parent and family engagement programs, including the development and revision of this policy, through being a part of the Adult Learning and Modeling Action Team led by a VAC employee.
- c. The school will report annually to the parents the status of the Title I program, as well as other Title I services available to children and parents.
- d. The school will provide parents with specific opportunities to be involved in their child's education such as volunteering, take-home library, math, technology and literacy nights, and so forth.
- e. The school will establish consistent and effective communication between parents, teachers and administrators by using monthly newsletters, a current website, and other forms of communication.
- f. The school will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including information, school reports and opportunities for involvement.
- g. The school will establish a School Community Council following all rules and guidelines provided by the State of Utah under the Community Council statutes. This council may also serve as the school parent advisory council required by Title I, Part A.
- h. The school will work within Title I parent involvement requirements including timely notification of parents in a language they can understand concerning school meetings, parent trainings and SEP's.
- i. The school will hold all calendared SEP's, including a variety of meeting times and other forms of communication.
- j. The school and representative parents will develop a school-parent-student compact.
- k. The school will provide reasonable support for parents with math and literacy trainings for parents and students.
- l. The school will encourage parents to support and participate in school related extra-curricular activities.
- m. VAC educates all faculty and staff in the value and usefulness of parent/family contributions by pointing out all the ways parents and families are useful, i.e., in the classroom, lunchroom, and out at recess. Administration dedicates a training at the beginning of the year in regard

to reaching out and communicating with and working with parents as equal partners in their child's education. Teachers are encouraged to invite parents collectively, individually and personally to the classroom to support the learning of the students.

Annual Evaluation

- a.** Every year, parents are asked to give feedback about school culture, curriculum, and classroom teacher through a parent survey that is created by VAC.
 - i.** Within the survey, parents are asked what are, if any, difficulties they may be facing, i.e.: limited English, disabled, economically disadvantaged;
 - ii.** Within the survey, parents are asked if their academic needs are being met and they are confident in helping their child at home. If not, what are they needing.
 - iii.** Within the survey, parents are asked what has helped them the most to be involved at VAC.
 - iv.** The survey results will be collected by VAC administrators, evaluated for information that could be beneficial in training teachers, and shared at a teacher in-service.
- b.** VAC will use the findings of the annual evaluation to improve the practice that parents are needing to be more successful. Suggestions made to improve better family engagement will be seriously considered and the policy will be reevaluated every year during the summer to implement the new practice at the beginning of the school year.