



**Manchester Academic Charter**

***Manchester Academic Charter School District-Wide 2006-2007 Parental Involvement Policy***

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**PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Manchester Academic Charter School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school district will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of its schools with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation from parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, the school district will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- The school district will incorporate this district wide parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative

formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

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**PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS** (cont'd)

- If the MACS plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- MACS will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A, schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A, funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the 1 percent reserved goes directly to the school.
- MACS will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that MACS will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
- (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

- [For States where a Parental Information and Resource Center is established] MACS will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the State. ([www.spac.K12.pa.us](http://www.spac.K12.pa.us))

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**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MANCHESTER ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

1. The Manchester Academic Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
  - Strategic Planning Committee
  - Professional Development Committee
  - Technology Committee
2. The Manchester Academic Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA:
  - Strategic Planning Committee
  - Professional Development Committee
  - Technology Committee
3. The Manchester Academic Charter School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
  - Strategic Planning Committee
  - Professional Development Committee
  - Progress Reports
  - Two Open Houses
  - School Website – [www.macsk8.org](http://www.macsk8.org)
4. The Manchester Academic Charter School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following programs:
  - Reading and Math Remediation Program
  - After-School Tutoring Program

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MANCHESTER ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS** (cont'd)

5. The Manchester Academic Charter School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (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). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents), its parental involvement policies.
  - A school survey will be created by school administration and sent to all parents annually.
  - A school survey will be created by school administration and administered to all students annually.
  
6. The Manchester Academic Charter School will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community, to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:
  - A. Provide assistance to parents of children served by MACS, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this below:

Meetings:

    - the State's academic content standards
    - the State's student academic achievement standards

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MANCHESTER ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS** (cont'd)

- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Title I, Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators
- two Open Houses
- parent/teacher conferences
- school computer lab access

B. MACS will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by holding meetings/training sessions on the following:

- the State's academic content standards
- the State's student academic achievement standards
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
- the requirements of Title I Part A
- how to monitor their child's progress
- how to work with educators
- two Open Houses
- parent/teacher conferences

C. MACS will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools by:

- Attending professional development workshops on communication and parent involvement
- Two Open Houses
- Monthly family nights

**PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW MANCHESTER ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS** (cont'd)

D. MACS will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children through:

- Oral, written, and electronic communication by the School Administration and staff.

E. MACS will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent – programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

- Newsletters
- Email/Web Site Postings
- Letters
- Brochures
- School Website – [www.macsk8.org](http://www.macsk8.org)
- Telephone Conferences
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**

- involving parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training;
- providing necessary literacy training for parents from Title 1, Part A funds, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for that training;

**PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS** (cont'd)

- paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
- in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school;
- adopting and implementing model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- establishing a district-wide parent advisory School Improvement Committee to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvements in Title I, Part A, programs;
- developing appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 [as parents may request.]

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**PART IV. ADOPTION**

This District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

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*(Signature of Authorized Official)*

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*(Date)*