

<h1>SEVEN GENERATIONS CHARTER SCHOOL</h1>	SECTION: COMMUNITY
	TITLE: 917 – PARENT INVOLVEMENT
	ADOPTED: May 10, 2011
	REVISED:

Purpose	<p>Seven Generations Charter School (“Charter School”), have jointly with teachers, principals, program administrators, and parents of participating children, developed and agreed upon this Title I Parent Involvement Policy. This policy shall be incorporated into any Charter School consolidated application for selected programs funded under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.</p> <p>The Charter School welcomes the participation of parents in support of student learning and recognizes that parental involvement increases the opportunities for student success. It is the policy of the Charter School to foster and maintain ongoing communications with parents concerning their opportunities for involvement, their children’s eligibility for special programs, their children’s educational progress, the professional qualifications of their children’s teachers, and the status of their children’s school. The Charter School strives to provide such information in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand. To the extent practicable, the Charter School shall also 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 in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. Communications with parents shall, at all times, respect the privacy of students and their families.</p>
Delegation of Responsibility	The Board of Trustees of Seven Generations Charter School authorizes the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or his/her designee to enforce this policy
Policy	<p><u>Definition</u></p> <p>The Charter School will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that the Charter School will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition found under 20 USCS § 7801(32):</p> <p><i>Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;</i></p>

(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.

Requirements

The Charter School agrees to adhere to the following requirements:

- The Charter School will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents, 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 with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with Section 1118, the Charter School will work to ensure that the required parental involvement policy meets the requirements of Section 1118(b) of the ESEA.
- The Charter School will incorporate this parental involvement policy into its LEA plan developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA.
- If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the Charter School will submit any parent comments with the plan when the Charter School submits the plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Charter School 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.
- The Charter School will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center ("PIRC") in Pennsylvania.
- The Charter School will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of Title I, Part A, and the right of the parents to be involved. The Charter School will offer a flexible number

of meetings regarding the school's Title I status, such as meetings in the morning or evening.

- Title I, Part A funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities, including transportation, childcare, or home visit expenses to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- To ensure the effectiveness of this parent involvement policy, the Charter School will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of its parent involvement policy in improving academic quality, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized under the parent involvement Section on the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This evaluation will focus particular attention on parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background. The Charter School will use the findings of this evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies described herein.
- In order to address Section 200.61 of the No Child Left Behind Act, Parents' Right to Know, it is the policy of the Charter School to notify parents of participating children at the beginning of each school year that parents may request and the school will provide information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.
- If the Charter School is identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring the Charter School ensures that:
 - The Charter School will provide parents of participating children with timely information about the Title I program, including:
 - An explanation of what the identification means, and how the Charter School compares in terms of academic achievement to other elementary schools or secondary schools;
 - The reasons for the identification;
 - An explanation of how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement;
 - An explanation of the parents' school choice option to transfer their children to their home school district.
 - Parents will be consulted in the development or revision of the required two-year school improvement plan;

- The plan will include a description of how the Charter School will provide written notice about the identification to parents of each student enrolled in the Charter School; and
 - The plan will include strategies to promote effective parental involvement at the Charter School.
- If the Charter School is in its second year of improvement or subject to corrective action or restructuring, a notice will be provided to parents explaining how they can obtain supplemental education services for their child, including:
 - The identity of approved providers of those services available within the Charter School; and
 - A brief description of the services, qualification, and demonstrated effectiveness of the providers; and,
 - If requested, assistance in choosing a provider.
 - The Charter School will provide assistance to parents in understanding Pennsylvania’s academic content standards and student achievement standards, local academic assessments and how to monitor a child's progress and work with teachers to improve the achievement of their children.
 - The Charter School will provide parents of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - The Charter School will provide, if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
 - The Charter School will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parent involvement.
 - As a component of the parental involvement policy, the Charter School will develop a School-Parent Compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the Charter School and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve Pennsylvania’s high standards.

School-Parent Compact

The Charter School's School-Parent Compact is incorporated into this parent involvement policy as Attachment I and it includes the following requirements:

1. The actions that the Charter School will take to involve parents in the joint development of its parental involvement plan under Section 1112 of the ESEA.
2. The actions the Charter School will take to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under Section 1116 of the ESEA.
3. The necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support that the Charter School will provide to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
4. How the Charter School will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the programs, such as Even Start.
5. The actions the Charter School will take to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of the Charter School. 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 Charter School 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.
6. How the Charter School will build the school's and parent's capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the Charter School, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities below:
 - a. Description of how the Charter School will provide assistance to parents of children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph –
 - 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, and how to work with educators.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. Description of how the Charter School 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.c. Description of how the Charter School will, with the assistance of its parents, 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 the Charter School.d. Description of how the Charter School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Even Start and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.e. Description of how the Charter School will take 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.
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