



## **DISTRICT PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

### **Introduction:**

Advantage Academy provides school-wide Title I services. The district holds itself responsible to jointly develop, annually distribute and revise its Parental Engagement Policies. These actions will take place at campus level and will be incorporated into each Campus Improvement Plan. A District Parental Engagement Policy has also been developed and will be maintained and incorporated into the District Improvement Plan.

The information provided in the Advantage Academy Parental Engagement Policies addresses all descriptors that are required to meet regulations that have been set forth in federal application assurances and Public Law [P.L. 107110, Section 1118]. The six topics listed below discuss address all policy requirements.

1. **Statement of Purpose:** Advantage Academy will provide quality educational experiences for every student. Advantage Academy is committed to “excellence in teaching and learning.” The school, parents and students benefit when we work together to promote high achievement for all students. This task cannot be accomplished alone. Parents play the most critical and extremely important role as the child’s first teacher. Parents’ support for their children and for the school is vital to student success at each developmental age, stage, and grade level. Advantage Academy will work collaboratively with parents and the community to accomplish the purpose of the school’s Title 1 program.

TEKS will identify the content that students will be expected to learn at each grade level. Grade level Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are available online at [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us). The district recognizes some students may need additional assistance through Title I programming. The focus will be to develop and maintain a school-parent-student partnership that will enable all students at Advantage Academy to experience academic success.

2. **Annual Meetings for Title I Parents:** Advantage Academy will host at a minimum two meetings each year with one meeting in the fall and another in the spring. Parents and interested community members will receive information concerning Title I Guidelines and the program in general. Copies of the District Parental Engagement Policy will be distributed and discussed. During the spring meeting, parents will be given the opportunity to offer suggestions for policy revisions and updates.

3. **School, Parent/Guardian and Student Compacts:** Advantage Academy has individualized its compacts also called values. Compacts or values have been jointly developed with participating parents and students and describe how the school, parents and students will together help improve achievement. The compacts address each party's responsibilities and in doing so hold each accountable to achieve academic success. Each compact individually describes the ideas that the school, parent/guardian and student will support and are highlighted by the following overview:
- a. ***Advantage Academy*** is dedicated, resourceful and goal-driven with a solid commitment to the social development and academic growth of every student.
  - b. Each ***Parent/Guardian*** is committed to upholding their and their child's values as outlined in the compacts.
  - c. ***Students*** must respect the rights and privileges of others, including all administrators, teachers, school staff members and visitors. Students must assist in fostering and maintaining a climate of mutual respect while exercising their individual rights responsibly.

4. **Parental Engagement Program Based on Community Needs:** Advantage Academy will assess the needs its students and the parents involved in the Title I program through formal surveys sent home annually. Surveys rely on and request specific information to fully understand and to better serve the needs of the students. Various workshops and programs are made available to parents and students through the Title I program. Parents are notified about upcoming opportunities through the district calendar, District program notices, campus specific information and school calendar's. For additional information, parents may call the District or campus offices or log on to the schools website at [www.adantageacademy.org](http://www.adantageacademy.org). Parents may also use these means to express interest in a workshop or to make suggestions.

5. **Staff and Parent Communication:** Communication avenues will include: newsletters, emails, telephone calls, and parent/teacher conferences. Information can also be obtained on the school's website and specifically under Parent Portal. Parents are encouraged to take the initiative in calling their child's teacher when a concern arises. AA staff will always seek ways to improve home-school communication. Parent input is sought to continue strengthening this area.

Home & School Connection is a monthly newsletter sent to all K-5 students. The newsletter provides homework tips and learning activities. Information is available in both English and Spanish.

6. **Evaluation:** Advantage Academy will conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of its Title I program. Parent input is solicited during the annual spring meeting. The evaluation shall assess the extent of parental engagement and seek to determine what barriers, if any, may exist regarding parent participation in the program. Advantage Academy will review and revise its Parental Engagement policy after the evaluation process and/or as required and needed.

This policy is coordinated by District Administrators working with Title I parents, classroom teachers, and Campus Administrators. The Board of Directors, Superintendent, Administrators, and both faculty and staff recognize the importance of parent engagement within the school and seek to strengthen the partnership with its students families in order to provide the best educational experiences possible.