



'A 'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi
Connections Public Charter School
A Community, Business & Education Learning 'Ohana

Parent & Family Engagement Policy

Connections Public Charter School's (CPCS) Governing Board recognizes that a child's education is a shared responsibility. To support the Governing Board's goal to educate all students effectively, stakeholders must work together as knowledgeable partners. CPCS is a collaborative effort, involving parents, students, educators, and community members. This collaboration is crucial because everyone has a role to play in supporting children's education and their overall success.

Definition

Parents, as pertaining to this document, are defined as individual(s) who assume responsibility for the education of the child. This includes biological parents, guardians, foster care parents, grandparents, etc. Although parents are diverse in culture, language, and needs, they share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children. CPCS, in collaboration with stakeholders, shall establish programs and practices that enhance parent engagement and reflect the specific needs of students and families.

Parents as Partners

CPCS's Governing Board supports the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of parent engagement programs. The implementation will involve parents at all grade levels in a variety of roles, including input in appropriate decision-making processes and practices. The parent engagement program will be comprehensive and coordinated in nature. It will include, but not be limited to, the following components of successful parent involvement programs:

- Parents play an integral role in the learning community, including assisting with successful achievement of state standards.
- Parents are partners in the decisions that affect children and families.
- Parents are welcome in school, and their support and assistance are sought.
- Parents support consistent attendance and readiness to learn.
- Parents can share their expertise and participate in field trips, programs, and projects.

Communication

Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful. Parents will receive notification of each child's progress. They will also be informed of the Title I school-wide program, ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) laws, standards and curriculum, state and local assessments, and the school's performance and growth in achievement. The following provisions are in place:

- Open House
- Family nights and informational meetings

- Phone calls or letters
- Flyers and newsletters
- Schoology
- Web page
- Performances and gatherings
- Progress reports
- Report cards
- Classroom notices
- Conferences
- Information in the appropriate language

Title I School Compact

A school-parent-student compact has been developed through a collaborative effort of parents and staff members outlining the expectations of students, parents, and school staff members concerning the responsibilities of each stakeholder group in improving student achievement. The compact outlines the need for partnership in:

- Providing a curriculum that fosters high standards for academic achievement
- Respecting each other and the diversity of the school and its ‘ohana
- Keeping open lines of communication among stakeholders
- Being an active participant in the education process of all members of the school

Sustaining Actions

CPCS's Governing Board shall implement administrative guidelines that support professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies. CPCS's Governing Board recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

Engaging parents is essential to improve student achievement and to prepare graduates for the real world. A strong partnership of stakeholders of CPCS will develop and grow with support embedded in the system. To ensure that this partnership receives support for the needs of the school and its stakeholders, CPCS will work toward the following goals:

- Providing opportunities for parents to become involved in school/classroom activities
- Coordinating and integrating Title I committees with other parent, community, and business organizations
- Keeping parents informed of activities, needs, and achievements
- Making community resources available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning