

## Board of Directors Advanced Technology Academy

# PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

In accordance with the Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds act of 2015 (ESSA), Advanced Technology Academy will develop and annually review, and revise when necessary, a comprehensive Parent & Family Engagement Plan to address all the activities outlined in Section 1116 of ESSA.

## Summary of the Components Addressed by the Annually Revised Family Engagement Plan

Everyone benefits when schools, families, and the community come together around students to help them succeed. The Academy's plan outlines what the District will do to promote parent and family engagement throughout the year. The State & Federal Program Director initiates the annual review / revision of the plan at the Annual title-I meeting in the Fall; continues the process at the monthly Parent School Improvement Team meetings; and concludes the process at the End-of-Year Meeting the first Friday in June. Feedback is also collected throughout the year with surveys.

Section 1116 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) outlines a variety of Parental Involvement requirements for schools that receive Title IA federal funds. The purpose is to increase parental involvement in the school program and solicit parents' participation in program decision making and implementation. The Academy's plan is broken into four parts:

- Policy Involvement
- Shared Responsibilities
- Building Capacity
- Accessibility

## Policy Involvement

Our plan includes an organized, on-going, and timely way to provide multiple opportunities for parents and families to participate in the planning, review, and evaluation of school-wide programs, the plan from the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP), and the Parent & Family Engagement Policy & Plan. In addition to an



annual meeting, the Academy hosts virtual monthly meetings - available on the website for later viewing in English and Spanish. These meetings provide resources and discussion opportunities regarding the educational process; the needs of their children; and the explanation of their rights. The Academy ensures that barriers to parent / family participation are eliminated by providing transportation and child care, as requested / needed.

Specific information is readily available to parents regarding: the types of school-wide programs funded with supplemental resources, a description and explanation of the curriculum used at the Academy, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, the achievement levels of the State academic standards; and the credentials of the teachers in their child's classroom. Parents are encouraged to request regular meetings to provide suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children beyond Fall and Spring Conferences. The Academy responds to these requests and/or suggestions as soon as practicably possible. If parents find that the school-wide plan is not satisfactory, those comments will be submitted, reviewed, and addressed by District Administrators and, if necessary, the Academy's Board.

## Shared Responsibilities

The Academy annually involves parents in the joint development/review of a School-to-Home Compact. The compact outlines how parents, school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

The compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables students to meet the challenging State academic standards.

The compact describes the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.

The compact addresses the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis, including participation in parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports to parents on student progress; reasonable access to staff; opportunities to volunteer in and observe the classroom. The compact is discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement at Fall & Spring Conferences.



The District ensures regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.

## **Building Capacity**

To ensure effective involvement of parents and a shared partnership of all stakeholders in improving student achievement, the District will assist parents in understanding the challenging State academic standards, the State and local academic assessments, and the monitoring of their student's progress.

The Academy will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement and work collaboratively with teachers.

The Academy will provide support and training for teachers and all other school personnel, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.

To the extent feasible and appropriate, the Academy will coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool 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.

As necessary, the Academy will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request.

## **Accessibility**

In all aspects of fulfilling all the requirements in the Parent & Family Engagement Policy & Plan, the District will, to the extent practicable, provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.



*Advanced Technology Academy*  
featuring the



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## Revision History

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August 12, 2020	Revised
September 20, 2023	Revised