
PARENT/GUARDIAN AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Pathways Academy Charter Schools and its programs (“Pathways Academy” or the “Charter School”) has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy (“Policy”) with input from Educational Partners. Pathways Academy has distributed the Policy to the Educational Partners by posting it on the school website. This Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Parent and Family Engagement requirements.

Pathways Academy Expectations and Objectives

In establishing the Charter School’s expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, Pathways Academy has established the following practices:

1. Pathways Academy involves Educational Partners in the joint development of the Charter School’s Parent and Family Engagement Plan.
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Educational Partner surveys
2. Pathways Academy provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity within the Charter School in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education.
 - Parent/Student Trainings and webinars
 - School Communication
 - Local Control Accountability Plan
3. Pathways Academy coordinates and integrates parent and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs.
 - English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) *as applicable
 - Local Control Accountability Plan
4. Pathways Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of Educational Partners, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Policy in improving the academic quality at the Charter School.
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Revisiting the parent and family engagement policy annually

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5. Pathways Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of Educational Partners, an annual evaluation of barriers to greater participation by parents/families (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).
 - ELAC *as applicable
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement
 - Educational Partner Surveys
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - School communication

6. Pathways Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of Educational Partners, an annual evaluation of the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with Charter School personnel and teachers.
 - Parent/Student Trainings and webinars
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - ELAC *as applicable
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement

7. Pathways Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of Educational Partners, an annual evaluation of strategies to support successful Charter School and family interactions.
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - ELAC *as applicable
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement

8. Pathways Academy uses the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective Educational Partner engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
 - Leadership team evaluates the data received from the following items and makes the needed adjustments to increase effective parental/student and family engagement:
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - ELAC *as applicable
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement

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9. Pathways Academy involves parents in the activities of the Charter School to adequately represent the needs of the population.
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee
 - ELAC *as applicable

Involvement of Students and Parents in the School Program

To involve Educational Partners the following practices have been established:

- Pathways Academy offers a flexible number of meetings for Educational Partners, such as meetings in the morning or afternoon.
- Pathways Academy involves Educational Partners in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
 - This is completed through the following:
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Local Control Accountability Plan engagement
- Pathways Academy provides Educational Partners with school program information
 - Pathways Academy School Communication
 - Pathways Academy Charter School website
 - Student Handbook
- Pathways Academy provides Educational Partners with an explanation of the curriculum used at the Charter School, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - Student Handbook
 - Pathways Academy Charter School website
 - Pathways Academy School Communication
- Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings provides opportunities for parents and students to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the Pathways Academy school program
 - Meetings will be held virtually with email invitations being sent out to all Educational Partners.
 - Local Control Accountability Program Educational Partner input meeting
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings

The Policy must be updated periodically to meet changing needs of students/parents/guardians and the Charter School. If Pathways Academy has a process in place for involving parents in

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planning and designing the Charter School's programs, the school may use that process if it includes adequate representation of Educational Partners.

School-Parent Compact

Pathways Academy distributes to Educational Partners a School-Parent Compact ("Compact"). The Compact outlines how parents, the entire Charter School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the Charter School and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards.

1. Pathways Academy's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to meet the challenging State academic standards.
2. The ways students and parents will be responsible for supporting their student's learning by participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
3. The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, monthly learning period meetings; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for parents to participate in their child's education; and regular communication between family members and school staff,

Building Capacity for Involvement

Pathways Academy engages Educational Partners in meaningful interactions with the Charter School. The Charter School supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, Pathways Academy has established the following practices.

1. Pathways Academy provides Educational Partners with assistance in understanding challenging state academic standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Student Handbook
 - Parent/Student/Teacher meetings
2. Pathways Academy provides Educational Partners with materials and training, as appropriate, to foster student/parental/involvement, to help them work to improve their student's achievement.
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Pathways Academy School Communication
 - Student/Parent/Teacher meetings

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3. With the assistance of Educational Partners, Pathways Academy educates staff members about the value of parent contributions and how to reach out, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and the Charter School.
 - Staff professional development
 - Staff participation in the Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
4. Pathways Academy coordinates and integrates the Educational Partners involvement programs, and conducts other activities to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings
 - Student/Parent/Teacher meetings
5. Pathways Academy distributes information related to Charter School and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Educational Partners in a format and language that the parents understand.
 - Meetings will be held virtually with email invitations being sent out to all Educational Partners.
 - Email invitations will be translated, as needed, in a language that parents understand.
 - Pathways Academy provides support for parental/student involvement activities requested by Educational Partners.
 - Educational Partner surveys
 - Educational Partner Advisory Committee meetings

Accessibility

Pathways Academy provides opportunities for the participation of all Educational Partners and family members, including parents/family with limited English proficiency, parents/family with disabilities, and parents/family of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents/family understand, including by:

- Digital format that can be translated with the use of technology.
- Information is presented in a way that is understandable by parents
- Information is presented visually and verbally, as applicable.
- Information presented is translated as needed.