

Parent Involvement Policy

The School recognizes that the involvement of parents (hereinafter including guardians/caretakers/foster caregivers) and families in their children's education is critical to students' success. In order to accomplish the goal of welcoming, encouraging, and promoting parental/family involvement, the School shall:

1. Create a welcoming school climate.

- Provide a welcome packet for all parents visiting the school, including important school contact information, school calendar and information about the vision and mission of the school.
- Have teachers make personal contacts with families through e-mail, phone calls or home visits.
- Hold an open house, prior to school opening, at which families can meet their children's teachers, tour the school building and meet other families.

2. Provide families information related to child development and creating supportive learning environments.

- Provide information for parents on typical development and appropriate parent and school expectations for various age groups.
- Print suggestions for parents on home conditions and activities that support learning at each grade level.
- Partner with local agencies to provide resources to families.

3. Establish effective school-to-home and home-to-school communication.

- Provide information for parents on homework policies and on monitoring and supporting student work at home.
- Send home student work for parent review and comment.
- Allow access so families can frequently monitor their children's progress.
- Clearly communicate school policies to all families.
- Establish formal mechanisms for families to communicate to administrators and teachers as needed (e.g., phone numbers, e-mail addresses, weekly hours for families to call or meet).
- Create a "suggestion or comment" box (electronic or onsite) for families to anonymously provide their questions, concerns and recommendations.

4. Strengthen families' knowledge and skills to support and extend their children's learning at home and in the community.

- Provide training and materials for parents on how to improve children's study skills or learning in various academic subjects.
- Make regular homework assignments that require students to discuss with their families what they are learning in class.
- Provide information on community resources and activities that link to student learning skills and talents, including summer programs for students.

- Inform families of the high expectations and standards children are expected to meet in each grade level. Provide ways for families to support the expectations and learning at home.
 - Engage families in opportunities to work with their children in setting their annual academic and career goals.
5. Engage families in school planning, leadership and meaningful volunteer opportunities.
- Invite parents to be involved at the School, including Title One planning.
 - Identify family volunteer interests, talents and availability, matching these resources to school programs and staff-support needs.
(Recurring volunteers will be required to comply with background check policies of the School.)
 - Create volunteer recognition activities such as events, certificates and thank-you cards.
 - Host events which encourage interaction among parents.
6. Connect students and families to community resources that strengthen and support students' learning and well-being.
- Through school-community partnerships, facilitate families' access to community-based programs (e.g., health care and human services) to ensure that families have resources to be involved in their children's education.
 - Establish school-business partnerships to provide students mentoring, internships and onsite, experiential learning opportunities.
 - Connect students and families to service-learning projects in the community.
 - Invite community partners to share resources at annual open houses or parent-teacher conferences.

Valor Academy of Ohio's Parent Compact

Parents, students, and the entire school staff have a shared responsibility to help students achieve academic success.

This compact lists mutual responsibilities for attaining the school's mission.

This compact, signed by a school representative, a parent and the student, is in effect until revoked.

Valor Academy of Ohio and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the students, and the entire school staff 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 Ohio's high standards.

Valor Academy of Ohio's Commitments

- Involve parents in planning, reviewing, and improving the school's parental and family engagement policy, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
- Involve parents in developing the school-wide program plan, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.
- Hold at least one annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A programs, and to explain the Title I, Part A requirements, and the right of parents to be involved in Title I, Part A programs.
- Provide information to parents of participating students in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon the request of parents with disabilities, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand.
- Provide opportunities (upon request) for regular meetings so that parents can provide suggestions, and participate, as appropriate, in decisions about the education of their children. The school will respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the state assessments in at least math, language arts, and/or reading.
- Provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet state-specific teacher effectiveness requirements.

Parent/Guardian Commitments

I understand that my participation in my child's education will positively impact his/her achievement and attitude.

Therefore, I will do my best to:

- Ensure that my child participates in school regularly.
- Establish a time and quiet place for my child to complete schoolwork.
- Ensure that my child participates in all required state testing
- Support the school in its efforts to maintain proper discipline.
- Read school communications and respond when necessary.
- Attend school functions, support school activities, and make every effort to attend parent-teacher conferences.
- Actively participate in decisions relating to the education of my child.
- Show an interest in my child's well-being and encourage my child to do his/her best.
- Share information and concerns about my child and about the school, and work together with the school to resolve problems.

Student Commitments

I know that my education is important and that I am responsible for my success. Therefore, I will do my best to do all of the following:

- Participate in school regularly and be prepared with all materials, including homework and a positive attitude.
- Put forth my best effort that includes paying attention and participating in class discussions, and asking for help when needed.
- Promptly deliver to parent(s) and teacher(s) all letters, messages, and notes from school or home.
- Cooperate with other students and adults involved in lessons and classes.
- Respect the rights and property of others and follow all school rules. This includes showing respect by not acting in a hostile manner or creating fear in others.
- Use appropriate language to communicate with adults and other students and be responsible for my own behavior.