

Parent & Community Involvement

Policies & Practices to Engage Parents in Student Achievement	Criteria 1			
	1. School has a school-parent compact tailored to their school and community. Parents helped create the document. 2. School has and shares a school-level parent involvement policy. Parents helped create the document. 3. Professional development for staff includes trainings/workshops on working with diverse families and parent involvement. 4. The school has a Parent Coordinator or Home-School Liaison that helps to connect all parents from all backgrounds to the school. 5. Student work is displayed throughout the school. The work also includes a description of the purpose of the work and the standard that it meets. 6. The school offers workshops for parents to help them understand the classroom curriculum and how they can help their children learn at home. 7. The school actively recruits and welcomes new parents/guardians from all backgrounds for school committees such as the PTA/PTO, CEIC, etc. 8. Parents are involved in the campus decision making process through active participation in the CEIC. 9. The parent handbook with school policies, school calendar and other information is provided to the parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year in a format that is easily understood. 10. Parents are informed of the process of scheduling meetings with teachers or school staff.			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
5-6 of the above criteria are met;	3-4 of the above criteria are met.	1-2 of the above criteria are met.	Less than 1 of the above criteria are met.	

Policies & Practices to Engage Parents in Campus Decision Making	Criteria 2			
	1. Parents are involved in the campus decision making process through active participation in the CEIC.			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
90-100% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Parent in Attendance	80-89% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Parent in Attendance	70-79% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Parent in Attendance	0-69% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Parent in Attendance	

What does exceptional home-school communication look like?	Criteria 3			
	1. The school has a system in place for ongoing assessment and feedback from parents regarding the school climate. 2. Principal and staff invite parents to ask questions and express concerns and respond to such communications in a two-way fashion. 3. The school informs families of policies, events, and opportunities using a variety of media (e.g., newsletter, flyers, website, meetings, volunteer phone tree, etc.). 4. Written materials are translated into languages according to the school community's demographic makeup. 5. Parents are surveyed regarding their interests, talents and availability to volunteer. 6. School & teachers inform families about how they respond to family concerns and how to access help. 7. School has user-friendly website that is updated regularly to keep parents informed. 8. The school establishes a tone of respect for all families, regardless of culture, ethnicity, language or disability. 9. The school offers a variety of opportunities for teachers and parents/guardians to meet face-to-face, such as open house, parent conferences, class visits, etc.			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
5-6 of the above criteria are met.	3-4 of the above criteria are met	1-2 of the above criteria are met.	Less than 1 of the above criteria are met.	

Criteria 4			
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What does an exceptional campus Parent Involvement program look like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The school invites parents to serve on school committees and parents are involved in the campus decision making process. 2. Multiple opportunities are provided for parents to be involved in campus activities/events (ie: Watch D.O.G.S.; Parent/Teacher Conferences; Parent Leadership Academy; Family Game Night; Math Night; Science Station Day; etc). 3. Provide a parent center for parents to use while at school. 4. Parent communication is provided in their own language. 5. Accommodate parents' work schedules when creating parent-involvement opportunities. 6. Provide opportunities for parent/teacher conferences that accommodate parent schedules/locations. 7. Seek out opportunities for professional development and training in parent involvement. 8. Make parents feel welcome in the school. 9. Reach out to parents whose first language is not English. 10. Keep parents informed of their children's performance and school activities by means of notes, telephone calls, newsletters, conferences, meetings, etc. 11. Provide opportunities for parents to visit the school, observe classes, and provide feedback. 12. Develop a plan to promote teacher-parent partnerships at school. 			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
	Minimum of 3 programs/activities per year.	Minimum of 2 programs/activities per year.	Minimum of 1 program/activity per year.	Less than 1 program/activity per year.

What does an exceptional campus parental involvement committee look like?	Criteria 5			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A successful parental involvement committee includes a diverse committed group of teachers and parents committed to student achievement and the success and well-being of the campus. 2. Supports students and participates in monthly meetings to actively develop strategic plans for the overall good of the campus. 3. Develops strategies for enhancing parental engagement and outreach. 4. Works to find ways to break down barriers of communication between home and school to help promote student achievement. 5. Provides parenting training regularly to help support parents in learning what a successful parent looks like. 6. Reaches out to parents, recognizing the barriers of time, language, recent immigration, socio-economic status, newness to the system, or other factors. 7. Participates in the promotion, development, and implementation of grant applications and projects. 			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
5-6 monthly meetings per year.	3-4 monthly meetings per year.	1-2 monthly meetings per year.	Less than 1 monthly meetings per year.	

What does a welcoming campus environment look like for parents?	Criteria 6			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents are thoroughly informed of parking arrangements when visiting the school. 2. The entrance to the building is inviting with a sign/banner/bulletin board welcoming parents. 3. There are signs by the school entrance that clearly guide or show parents to the main office. 4. The office staff immediately recognizes parents with a smile, answers the phones politely and easily provides adequate information. 5. There is a parent resource room or comfortable area available where parents have access to books, educational materials and resources. 6. There is a sofa or comfortable chairs available in the office area for parents who need to wait. 7. The school has volunteers or designated staff acting as parent mentors who provide tours, guidance and support to newly enrolled families. 8. There are signs located outside each classroom door noting grade level, course title and teacher's name. 9. The school creates displays that reflect diversity and the families in the school community. 			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
5-6 of the above criteria are met.	3-4 of the above criteria are met.	1-2 of the above criteria are met.	Less than 1 of the above criteria are met.	

Criteria 7			
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What does an exceptional campus Community Involvement program look like?	1. Community and business members are involved in the decision making process (CEIC). 2. Campus, community and businesses collaborate to foster mutual trust and respect in order to create various opportunities for support of students' academic and extracurricular activities (ie: donated supplies, Backpack Buddy, solicitation of grants, Career Day, volunteer opportunities (mentors, tutoring, etc.)).			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
	90-100% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Community/Business Member in Attendance	80-89% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Community/Business Member in Attendance	60-69% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Community/Business Member in Attendance	0-59% of the CEIC Meetings had at Least One Community/Business Member in Attendance

What does an exceptional campus community involvement committee look like?	Criteria 8			
	1. A successful community involvement committee includes a diverse committed group of teachers and community members committed to student achievement and the success and well-being of the campus. 2. Supports students and participates in monthly meetings to actively develop strategic plans for the overall good of the campus. 3. Develops strategies for enhancing community involvement and outreach. 4. Works to find ways to break down barriers of communication between community and school to help promote student achievement. 5. Reaches out to the community, recognizing the barriers of time, language, newness to the school system, or other factors. 6. Participates in the promotion, development, and implementation of grant applications and projects. 7. Provides training regularly on ways the community can be involved in the school to help support student success. 8. Provides opportunities regularly for the community to be involved in the school (tutoring, after school activities, sponsorship of events, judge school activities, etc.)			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
	5-6 monthly meetings per year.	3-4 monthly meetings per year.	1-2 monthly meetings per year.	Less than 1 monthly meetings per year.

What does a welcoming campus environment look like for community members?	Criteria 9			
	1. Visitors are thoroughly informed of parking arrangements when visiting the school. 2. The entrance to the building is inviting with a sign/banner/bulletin board welcoming visitors. 3. There are signs by the school entrance that clearly guide or show visitors to the main office. 4. The office staff immediately recognizes visitors with a smile, answers the phones politely and easily provides adequate information. 5. There is a sofa or comfortable chairs available in the office area for visitors who need to wait. 6. There are signs located outside each classroom door noting grade level, course title and teacher's name. 7. The school creates displays that reflect diversity and the families in the school community.			
	Exemplary	Recognized	Acceptable	Unacceptable
	5-6 of the above criteria are met.	3-4 of the above criteria are met.	1-2 of the above criteria are met.	Less than 1 of the above criteria are met.