



## **New Horizons Community Charter School Title I District Wide Parental Involvement Policy**

New Horizons Community Charter School (NHCCS) agrees to implement the following requirements for Title I Parent Involvement:

NHCCS will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in its school with Title I, Part A programs, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children. An annual District Title I Parent Leadership Meeting will be held each spring with parent and school representation dedicated to formulating or revising the district policy. Upon completion of the draft, the policy will be sent to the Title I Parent Leadership Team, composed of parents from our school volunteering to serve in this advisory capacity, for the final review. The school will share the draft document with their parent organization and submit their comments to be included in revisions, if needed.

1. The school district will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement and expects that its Title I school will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

*Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:*

*(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*

*(B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*

*(C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*

*(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*

2. Consistent with section 1118, the school district will ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(b) of the ESEA. An annual compliance check by the Title I Resource Teacher will verify that the school has met the requirements of section 1118 of ESEA. An annual evaluation, developed by parents and school representatives, will determine the effectiveness of the program and revise, as indicated, to enhance the program or improve areas of weakness. This evaluation will be developed and approved by the Title I Parent Leadership Team.
3. The school district will incorporate this parental involvement policy into its Local Education Agency (LEA) plan. The plan will be included in the Title I, Part A grant that

is Board approved and submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) each year. The district parent involvement policy will also be included in Title I district information materials distributed to the parents.

4. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school district will provide opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand. Translation equipment is available in English and Spanish.
5. If the LEA plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school district will submit any parent comments with the Title I Part A plan when the school district submits the plan to the State Department of Education. Parents are informed of their rights to submit comments regarding the Title I, Part A plan. Those comments will be included with submission of the plan.
6. The school district will involve the parents of children served in Title I, decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the school. Title I budget for parent involvement activities and other Title I activities will be shared at the spring Title I Parent Leadership Annual Meeting, along with opportunities for input regarding the spending of the funds.
7. New Horizons Community Charter School Title I program will provide all necessary coordination, technical assistance and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. As such, the Title I Family Involvement Team and interested parents as part of the Title I District Parent Leadership Team will continue to have a fall workshop/training discussing ESEA section 1118 and how it is applicable to school requirements. Additional meetings will be held throughout the year upon request or as need arises. The Title I Parent Involvement Handbook will be updated annually. Sharing of best practices will be a part of each meeting. The NHCCS web site/newsletters may be used for posting information and articles, survey results, and input for Title I activities. Training sessions will be provided for advisory members and school representatives.
8. NHCCS's Title I program will conduct with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies. The Title I Parent Leadership Team will review and update NHCCS Title I Evaluation/Needs Assessment. NHCCS may utilize this form for

evaluating the school program. The data from the evaluations will be discussed at the annual District Title I Parent Leadership Meeting with parent and school representation and will be included in the planning for the parent policy the following school year. The plans may be updated to include new activities to meet identified needs.

9. The school district will include activities and actions to build the school and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, involved parents and the community, to improve student academic achievement.

- A. NHCCS will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph--

- the State's academic content standards,
- the State's student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- how to monitor their child's progress, and
- how to work with educators:

Access to information published by the school will be shared with school and parent representatives. NHCCS will share information at Open House, Parent Curriculum Information Nights, the Title I Annual Meeting, and individual parent-teacher conferences, etc.

- B. NHCCS will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy, mathematics and science technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. By providing professional development opportunities for teachers, as well as our connection will enhance the understanding of our standards based programs.

- C. The school will, with the assistance of our parents, educate its teachers, personnel, principals and other staff in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools. Title I will continue to provide training to schools and parents with State and nationally recognized speakers who encourage academic success. These speakers may share information with school staff and parents through parent workshops.

## **PARENT NOTICIFICATIONS**

As required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the following information is to be shared annually with parents. The distribution of this document shall serve as a formal notification to parents regarding these issues.

### **Right To Request Information**

Each parent of a student in a Title I school has the right to request information about the professional qualifications of the student's teacher(s) and any teacher assistants who serve the students. This information will be provided by the administrative office at the child's school upon request. This notice will also be provided by the school to all parents.

### **Parent Notification Regarding Non-Highly Qualified Teachers**

No Child Left Behind (federal education law) requires us to notify the parent when a teacher who is not qualified teaches your child for four consecutive weeks. If this occurs, your child's school will send home a letter giving you information regarding your child's teacher.

### **Parent Information Resource**

To help implement successful and effective parental involvement policies, programs and activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement and strengthen partnerships among parents and New Horizons Community Charter School will:

- Provides a monthly school newsletter
- Hold annual Title I conference for parents
- Provide listing of topics and speakers regarding Title I to PTA organization
- Provide Title I PowerPoint for parents