

SUBJECT: TITLE I PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Parent Involvement Beliefs

The Charter School for Applied Technologies (CSAT) believes that education is the shared responsibility of the student, parents, family, school and community and that the academic achievement and success of our students depend on the strength of the partnerships developed among these stakeholders. For the purpose of this policy, parent is defined as any parent, guardian, and/or person in parental relation to child or children. All parents at CSAT will be encouraged to become involved in the educational processes of their child(ren).

Students, who are at the center of these partnerships, have unique skills, talents and learning styles and ultimately are responsible for their own academic achievement. Parent and families provide their children with the foundation of their values, aspirations, and ways of knowing. Parents' knowledge of their children's unique histories, traditions, experiences, learning styles, resources and challenges is a valuable resource which is critical to their child's successful achievement in school.

Involve parents in the joint development of the Title I plan

A Consolidated Application Overview meeting is scheduled, annually, during the first few weeks of school. At this meeting, parents and family members will hear about the school's requirements under Title I and related ESSA regulations and are encouraged to become members of its Title I Planning Committee (the Design Team). The Design Team works in unison to generate and or update the current Parent and Family Engagement policy and the school's annual Consolidated Application. Meetings are conducted face to face, via email, to accommodate the schedules of CSAT's parents and families. .

Coordinate and integrate Title I strategies with other programs

CSAT coordinates and integrates Title I parent and family engagement strategies with other programs by communicating with families about school programs and student progress through effective school to home and home to school communications including the Eagle Preview (newsletter), the Parent Portal (progress reports and report cards. Title I integration also happens through various activities held throughout the academic year inclusive of; parent seminars, cultural days, and Open House.

Annual Evaluation of Effectiveness for Title I Parent Programs

CSAT completes an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement policy through the Title I planning committee meetings and dialogue as well as through an analysis of the results of the various parent surveys inclusive of an Intent to Return survey and the Family Needs Assessment survey conducted annually. The evaluation team, which includes parents, looks at improving the academic quality of the school, identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in activities authorized by Title I, and using the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement. When necessary, the Parent and Family Engagement policies will be revised based on evaluation results.

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Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement each school will:

- a) Provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or LEA, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirement of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve and achievement of their children;

CSAT provides our parents specific, yearly parent information nights on the following topics: Regents Requirements and Assessments, Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Assessments, and Grades 4 and 8 Science Assessments. At these informational meetings we work with parents to guide them through the State's academic content standards, and achievement standards, assessments. CSAT also collaborates with parents at monthly Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings to continually seek to improve student achievement and monitoring. Finally, CSAT communicates with parents regarding individual student progress through 5-week progress reports and 10-week report cards and gives information concerning State assessments and reporting through our online Parent Portal (www.csat-k12.org).

- b) Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;

To foster parental involvement, CSAT has developed a variety of materials and training to help parents work with their child(ren) to improve their children's achievement. In grades K through 8, child development characteristic cards are sent annually to parents to explain the social, cognitive and physical development of their child(ren). The CSAT Counseling Department offers monthly, relevant parent training that increases parental awareness on issues concerning their child(ren) and how those issues specifically affect their child(ren)'s achievement. Finally, CSAT has made deliberate efforts to encourage parents to become technologically proficient through activities required to access the electronic Parent Portal which provides up to date information on their child's academic performance inclusive of progress reports, report cards, test scores, and homework assignments.

- c) Educate teachers, pupils service personnel, principals and other staff with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contribution 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.

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CSAT builds ties between parents and the school to instill value and utility of contribution of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners through our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). The purpose of the Parent Advisory Council shall be to ensure that a partnership with the community is created and to focus on school improvement issues. The Council will report to the Superintendent, Building Principals and the Board of Trustees monthly. The organization will be comprised of designated parents from every parent organization and serves to support school initiatives and activities that promote a connection between the school and community, fosters parent-staff-student relationships and builds a strong collaborative culture.

- d) Coordinate and integrate to the extent feasible and appropriate, parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal , State, and local programs including public preschool and other programs and conducting other activities such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents and families in more fully participating in the education of their children.

CSAT has developed and maintained a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Western New York to provide parents with a variety of different venues that encourage and support the education of their child. CSAT also provides a summer early pre-kindergarten and Summer Bridge program. Through annual assessments of each incoming kindergartener and former kindergarteners advancing to first grade, these programs are designed to target and develop specific cognitive, social skillsets, fundamental literacy, and math skills and provides parent with a detailed academic plan for successful transition into a school age placement.

CSAT's Family Support Center was created to strengthen its students and families through school, community and parent collaboration in order to promote student success and well-being. Parent and Family Engagement activities include various workshops centered around the dangers of Social Media, nutrition, fitness, and Suicide Awareness.

- e) Ensure that information relating to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent out to the parents of participating children in a format and to the extent practicable in a language the parents can understand.

CSAT ensures that information relating to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent out to the parents of participating children through the Eagle Preview (newsletter), CSAT Website, and the use of the One Call Now, an autodialer system. Where language barriers prohibit the use of these we will inform those parents on a case by case basis utilizing interpreters or through written communication applicable in their language.

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Teacher-Parent-Student Compact

This compact unifies the bond between school and home to ensure that all students attending The Charter School for Applied Technologies reach high academic standards. This partnership illustrates the shared responsibility between students, parents and teachers to provide a safe, healthy and supportive learning climate.

School Commitment to Students:

- a) You will learn the same essential knowledge.
- b) Your learning will be monitored on an ongoing basis.
- c) You will be given extra time and support in a systematic way as soon as you need it.
- d) You will be given multiple opportunities to learn.
- e) You will be judged according to the same criteria.
- f) You will be provided with examples of quality work to help you assess your progress.
- g) Above All...You will have the benefit of educators who work together collaboratively to seek out and use those practices that have a positive impact on your achievement.

Student Commitment to School:

- a) I will work to the best of my ability every day.
- b) I will come prepared to learn those skills that will enable me to become a productive member of society.
- c) I will recognize and take responsibility for my actions, behaviors and appearance.
- d) I will illustrate pride in myself and my school.

Parent/Guardian Commitment to School:

- a) I will make sure my child attends school regularly and on time.
- b) I will provide an encouraging home environment that illustrates the value of education.
- c) I will insist that all homework is completed and handed in on time.
- d) I will ensure that my child is prepared for school each day.
- e) I will support the school and my child for taking responsibility for their actions, behaviors