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Commitment to Excellence

Below are sample Commitment to Excellence forms signed by members of the KIPP Philosophers Academy "team and family" at the beginning of each year.

Student Commitment:

As a KIPPster, I commit to KIPP in the following ways:

I will come to school on time every day.

I will follow the dress code.

I will work, think, and behave in the best way I know how. I will do whatever it takes to learn.

I will finish all of my homework every night. If I have a question, I will ask my parents for help. **If I still need help, I will call my teacher before 7:30 PM.**

I will listen to my teachers and follow all directions.

I will track the teachers and give them my full attention and respect at all times.

I will respect all classroom and school rules.

I will embody the school values of **Grit, Zest, Grace, Truth and Love.**

I will believe in my own and my teammates' abilities to get to and through college, even when it's hard.

I will protect the safety, rights, and interests of everyone in the classroom. This means I will solve my problems with words and use good judgment and get a teacher, even if someone puts his or her hands on me.

I will tell the truth when I make a mistake and take responsibility for my own achievement. I know that graduating from college means a better future for me.

I understand that failure to adhere to these commitments can cause me to lose various KIPP privileges and may result in disciplinary action.

X_____

Teachers' Commitment:

Without taking shortcuts, we commit to KIPP Philosophers Academy in the following ways:

- We will arrive at KIPP Philosophers Academy by 7:15AM daily.
- We will remain at KIPP Philosophers Academy until 5:15PM daily
- We will come to KIPP Philosophers Academy on appropriate Saturdays at between 8AM and Noon.
- We will teach at KIPP Philosophers Academy during the summer.
- We will dress in a professional manner every day.
- We will always teach in the best way we know how and we will do whatever it takes for our students to learn.
- We will plan and execute rigorous lessons to prepare our students for success in high school, college, and life.
- We will provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's classroom.
- We will regularly provide parents with updates on their child's progress via progress reports and report cards.
- We will make ourselves available for parent-teacher conferences in which we discuss students' individual achievement and progress.
- We will always protect the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals in the classroom.
- We will plan and execute rigorous lessons to prepare our students for success in college and life.
- We are committed to results. We will regularly provide families with updates on their children's progress.
- We will be available to students and parents for all concerns they may have, by phone or in person.
- We will do whatever it takes to challenge our students to reach KIPP's academic and character expectations while protecting the safety, interests, and rights of all individuals in the classroom, at school, and on all field trips.
- We will strive to be the best teachers we can be, modeling excellence and taking no shortcuts in preparing our students for success in college and in life.

We understand that we are accountable for our level of commitment to the school and our students and their families.

Sign here

Parent/Guardian Commitment:

Without taking shortcuts, we commit to KIPP in the following ways:

We understand that our child must follow the KIPP rules. We, not the school, are responsible for the behavior and actions of our child.

We will ensure our child arrives at KIPP Philosophers Academy by 7:25 a.m. (M – F) so that they may be in class ready to learn by 7:30 a.m. We will also arrange for our child to remain at KIPP Philosophers Academy until school ends and we will elect into all supplemental instruction such as enrichment, Saturday School, and Summer School.

We will notify the school no later than the beginning of the school day if our child will miss school. We will send a note when they return.

We will ensure our child adheres to the KIPP Philosophers Academy dress code.

We will contact teachers regularly to discuss our child's progress.

We will check our child's agenda and sign it every day as part of our child's homework.

We will read and check carefully all papers our child brings home, including homework every night. When there are problems, we will ensure that our child calls a KIPP Philosophers Academy teammate or the KIPP Philosophers Academy faculty for help.

We will commit to volunteering for 20 or more hours at KIPP Philosophers.

*We understand that this is a long-term commitment. *We understand that if all these commitments are not met, our child will receive consequences, including loss of privileges, and possibly removal from the school.

Parent Signature

Work hard. Be nice. Stay connected.    

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School Success Team

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