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STANDARD VIEW FULL VIEW 5 OF 37

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

To put it simply, we cannot provide a high-quality education without including the parent(s) of every student in the learning process. Educators and parents cannot work in isolation of each other. In order for learning to take place for every student, there must be a continuum of instruction that lasts much longer than the time students are in school. By working together as trusted partners, parents and educators can create an educational experience for each student that allows learning to continue at home and beyond the classroom walls. Research states that:

- When parents are involved, students tend to achieve at higher levels in school, regardless of socio-economic status, ethnic/racial background, or parents' education level.
- The more extensive the parent involvement, the higher the student achievement.
- When parents are involved in students' education, those students generally have higher grades and test scores, better attendance, and complete homework more consistently.
- Students whose parents are involved in their lives have higher graduation rates and greater enrollment rates in postsecondary education.
- In programs designed to involve parents in full partnerships, student achievement for disadvantaged children not only improves, but can also reach levels that are standard for middle-class children.

Because of this overwhelming evidence, we believe it is paramount to include parents in the learning process. Upon enrollment, parents sign a Commitment to Excellence Contract to provide 40 hours of service each year to improve the achievement of their child and the school community. The school also provides structures to involve parents in their child's learning and coordinate parent communication, workshops, activities, and clubs to educate, train, and empower parents to better support their child's pursuit of an excellent education.

Several of the activities that count as Parent Hours are listed below (see Parent Passport for more information):

- Attending Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences and Parent Orientations
- Participating in Parent Events or Parent Group Meetings
- Buying healthy food for parent events or for your child's classroom (\$5 = 1 hour)
- Completing at-home projects for teacher or Parent Liaison (maximum: 30 minutes per day, per child)
- Helping during Study Hall
- Homework or reading time at home with your student(s) (maximum: 30 minutes per day, per child)
- Morning greeting (2 mornings = 1 hour of credit)
- Set up/clean up for school events
- Tutoring
- Volunteering in your child's classroom

Failure to fulfill your parent commitment may cause your child to lose various privileges. Beginning in 2014-15, parents who do not fulfill their 40 hour commitment during the academic year must complete any remaining portion of their 40 hours during the following school year.

Department of Justice Checks
Before authorizing any person to serve as a volunteer working with students who is not directly supervised by

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