File: KB Rev. 3

Parent Involvement in Education

The charter school believes that the education of each student is a responsibility shared by the school as well as parents, and that engaging parents is essential to improved student achievement. The charter school recognizes the need for a constructive partnership between the charter school and parents that provides for a two-way communication and fosters educational support for students and parents. In this policy, the word "parent" also includes guardians and other members of a student's family involved in the student's education.

In keeping with these beliefs, it is the intention of the charter school to cultivate and support active parental engagement and to set and realize goals for parent-supported student learning.

To that end, the charter school shall:

- 1. Consults with and encourages parents to share in school planning and in the setting of objectives through participation in the Building Accountability Committee (BAC).
- 2. Help parents understand the educational process and their role in supporting student achievement.
- 3. Inform parents of school choices and learning opportunities within the charter school including but not limited to information on open enrollment, choice programs, and other options if available.
- 4. Provide opportunities for parents to be informed about their student's progress toward attaining proficiency on state academic standards through written materials and public meetings. Information shall explain how the student's progress will be measured and how parents will be informed of such progress. This information shall also be provided to the BAC.
- 5. Provides appropriate avenues for parents/guardians to find support in their role.
- 6. Encourages formal organizations for parents in the charter school. The organizations shall receive information concerning the activities of the charter school and shall have opportunities for input into charter school decisions as appropriate.
- 7. Encourage and welcome parent volunteers in the schools. The charter school supports professional development opportunities for staff to enhance their understanding of effective parent engagement strategies.
- 8. All volunteers working with students at the school or who will be on field trips, shall be fingerprinted and a background check done.

The charter school also recognizes the special importance of parental involvement to the success of its Title 1, Migrant Education Program (MEP), and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) programs and directs the administrator to ensure that the charter school develops with parents written parent involvement policies that meet the requirements of federal law.

The building accountability committee (BAC) shall conduct a periodic review of this policy. As part of its review, the BAC shall seek input from other areas in the school and may provide any recommended policy revisions to the policy committee and the Charter Board.

LEGAL REF: C.R.S. 8-13.3-101 et seq. (leave for parental involvement in academic activities)

- C.R.S. 22-7-301 et seq. (measures to increase parental involvement in public education)
- C.R.S. 22-7-407(5) (informing parents about standards-based education)
- C.R.S. 22-11-302 (1)(g) (duties of the building accountability committee include increasing parent engagement)
- C.R.S. 22-11-402 (1)(h) (duties of the building accountability committee include increasing parent engagement)
- C.R.S. 22-30.5-109 (publicity regarding educational options)
- C.R.S. 22-32-142 (1) (charter board must adopt parent engagement policy and identify an employee to act as a "point of contact")

CROSS REF: AE, Accountability/Commitment

AEA, Standards Based Education

KBA, Charter School Title 1 Parent Involvement Policy

KD, Public Information and Communications

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Lake George Charter School