Instruction

Exhibit - District-Level Parental Engagement Compact

This District-level Compact provides an understanding of the joint responsibility of the District and parents/guardians and family members to improve students' academic achievement and school performance. To that end, the District provides opportunities for parents/guardians and family engagement at the District level by:

- 1. The District involves parents/guardians and family members in the joint development of the District's plan to help low-achieving children meet challenging achievement and academic standards (20 U.S.C. §6312), and the development of comprehensive and targeted support and improvement plans (20 U.S.C. §6311(d)(1), (2))) by:
 - Establishing a District-level committee with parents/guardians liaisons from each building as well as representatives from other relevant federal, State, and local programs.
 - Establishing meaningful, ongoing two-way communication between the District, staff and parents/guardians.
 - Developing a District newsletter to communicate to parents/guardians about the plan and seek their input and participation.
 - Training personnel on how to collaborate effectively with families with diverse backgrounds that may impede parents/guardians participation, e.g., illiteracy or language Difficulty.
- 2. The District provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools in planning and implementing effective parents/guardians and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance by:
 - Providing ongoing District-level workshops to assist buildings in planning and implementing improvement strategies.
 - Establishing training programs for building liaisons to bring the communication and facilitation skills to the buildings they represent.
 - Providing information to parents/guardians about the various assessment tools and instruments that will be developed to monitor progress.
 - Seeking input from parents/guardians in developing workshops.
 - Providing ongoing communication about the District-wide committee through District newsletters or other written or electronically communicated means.

- Engaging the building PTO's to actively seek out and involve parents/guardians through regular communication updates and information sessions.
- Utilizing PTO's to assist in identifying effective communication strategies based on their members' needs.
- Providing a master calendar of District meetings to discuss pertinent topics.
- Allowing meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents/guardians and family members in education.
- 3. The District coordinates and integrates parents/guardians and family engagement strategies under this Compact, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with engagement strategies under other relevant federal, State and local programs by:

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 - Involving District and program representatives to assist in identifying specific population needs.
 - Sharing data from other programs to assist in developing new initiatives to improve academic achievement and school improvement.
- 4. The District conducts, with the meaningful involvement of parents/guardians and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parents/guardians and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served under Title I, including identifying: (a) barriers to greater participation by parents/guardians in activities authorized by 20 U.S.C. §6318 (with particular attention to parents/guardians who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background); (b) the needs of parents/guardians and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and (c) strategies to support successful school and family interactions. The District then uses the findings of such evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parents/guardians involvement, and to revise, if necessary, its District-level parents/guardians and family engagement policies The District does these activities by:
 - Evaluating the effectiveness of the content and communication methods through a
 variety of means, including: focus groups, surveys, workshops, and informal coffees with
 District and building administrative staff, parents/guardians, and teachers.
 - Identifying barriers to effective evaluation by language support or other assistance as Needed.
 - Identifying potential policy and compact changes to revise and improve program(s).
- 5. The District involves parents/guardians in the activities of the schools served under Title I by:

- Providing communication and calendar information to parents/guardians of upcoming meetings, discussions or events and encouraging their participation.
- Providing Building Principal and PTO coordination of events.
- Establishing a parent-advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents/guardians or family members to adequately represent the needs of the District's population for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

Revised: June 12, 2017