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Parental Involvement Policy 2011-2012

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Learning Center! operates a school wide Title I program as defined by the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Part A (ESEA), and receives federal funds to operate the program. The ESEA, Part A, Section 1118, requires that all schools who receive Title I, Part A funds develop with and distribute to parents a written parental involvement policy. This policy is updated annually to meet the changing needs of the students, parents and the school. The updated 2009-2010 Parental Involvement Policy incorporates the opinions and suggestions of the parents, teachers and Board members gathered through meetings, surveys and other methods of communication.

The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

“Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

- that parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;*
- that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;*
- that parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.”*

B. COMPONENTS

The Learning Center! agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in Title I, Part A. The school will notify parents of the meeting in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Offer a variety of opportunities at flexible times for parent involvement.
- Create a timeline and develop strategies to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I, Part A program.
- Provide parents with information and opportunities including, but not limited to the following:
 - Timely information about Title I, Part A programs,
 - School performance profiles,
 - Assessment results of their child's performance
 - Descriptions and explanations of the curriculum, assessments, proficiency levels and state standards,
 - Opportunities for regular meetings to participate in decision-making,
 - Regular and timely communication with parents,
 - Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in classrooms.
- Provide a School-Parent Compact that explains the expectations and shared responsibilities of all parties in helping achieve high student performance.
- Support partnerships among the school, parents, and community that will improve student achievement by building the capacity of parents and school staff for strong parental involvement by addressing the following components:
 - Assist parents in understanding performance standards and assessments, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to participate in decisions relating to the education of their child,
 - Provide materials and training, as practicable, to help parents work with their children,
 - Educate teachers and other staff to work with parents,
 - Provide ample opportunities for parental involvement, including, as practicable, training opportunities designed to help parents become full partners in their child's education, and
 - Ensure that information related to parental involvement is communicated in the family's native tongue.
- Provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency or with disabilities.
- Provide funds as needed for parent involvement activities.

- Accommodate parent requests, as reasonable and practicable, for parental involvement activities.
- Involve parents in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the school.
- Offer other parent involvement practices, as practicable.