

South Buffalo Charter School Title I Parent Involvement Policy

The Title I Parent Involvement Policy is based on the South Buffalo Charter School's philosophy that schools exist to serve students. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the South Buffalo Charter School to involve parents in building supportive academic environments and in the educational process of their child(ren). South Buffalo Charter School believes that public schools of choice belong to the people and that the schools are only as strong as the intelligent and informed support of the parents and people of the community. The public understanding of and participation in public schools of choice will only serve to strengthen our school. Parental involvement is encouraged in development of goals and objectives of the school as well as the parental involvement policy.

We, therefore, affirm and assure the right of parents of children participating in activities funded by Title I A, for opportunities to collaboratively participate in:

- *The design and implementation and evaluation of South Buffalo Charter School's Title I A Plan including parental involvement activities*

South Buffalo Charter School will establish a Title I Advisory Committee to annually review Title I programs and policies. The Committee will include parents of Title I students, Title I staff, general education teachers, a P.T.A. representative and the school Director or designee. Comments and suggestions for improving the Title I program will be gathered and discussed.

Parents will be invited to participate in the planning and review of the Title I Plan and Parental Involvement Plan and Policy.

Opportunities will be available for parents to make suggestions and to participate as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

South Buffalo Charter School understands that we as educators bear the responsibility of helping parents understand federal and state policies and objectives concerning their children's education. The Title I coordinator will provide technical assistance to South Buffalo Charter School as needed to ensure the effective planning and implementation of parental involvement activities. Educators involved in the Title I program will assist participating parents in acquiring an understanding of the following to the extent applicable or feasible:

- *State and local assessments*

South Buffalo Charter School will provide assistance to parents of children served as appropriate in understanding topics such as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local

academic assessments, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.

Parents will be invited to attend informational sessions regarding a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at each grade level, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Parents will be assisted with understanding state assessments along with interpreting the reports through a variety of parent informational session during the Spring semester.

- *Requirements for Title I, Part A*

An annual parental involvement meeting will be conducted in which all parents will be invited and encouraged to attend. The meeting will provide information about the Title I Program and the importance of parents participating in their child's education. Parents will be made aware of their rights to participate in the school's educational process. Meetings will be held at flexible times allowing parents to attend at their convenience. Child Care will be provided for parents who attend the meetings

- *Components of a targeted assisted Title I program*

- *Ways parents can monitor their children's progress and work with educators to improve the performance of their children*

Parent / Student Handbooks will be provided at the beginning of each school year describing the requirements for promotions, school calendar, beginning and ending quarter dates, progress reports and responsibilities of parents and students. Progress reports will be sent home at the middle of quarter.

Report cards will be distributed to parents during parent/teacher conferences at the end of each quarter.

Monthly newsletters will be sent home providing information on how parents can assist students in meeting grade level academic goals.

Resources will be made available to parents for use at home. These will include resources for building math and reading skills such as videos, books, and other information. Parents will also receive a Friday folder, containing activities to complete with their child at home to extend learning time.

- *Ways parents can participate in decisions relating to the education of their children*

Parents will participate in the development and revision of the parental involvement policy through the Title I Advisory Committee to insure the implementation of activities will be beneficial to all parents

The Parent Involvement policy of South Buffalo Charter School will be evaluated annually as to its effectiveness in increasing parent participation and identifying barriers to parent participation such as low income, disabilities, limited literacy, language or other cultural or ethnic considerations. The findings of the annual evaluation will be used to design strategies for school improvement or to redesign parent policies.