

# **Mastery Charter School**

## **TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM**

### **WHAT IS TITLE I?**

Title I is a federally-funded program designed to provide a high-quality education that will enable all children to meet the state's student performance standard. Title I is a part of the "No Child Left Behind Act" passed by Congress in 2002. Title I programs can provide supplemental instruction in reading, math, science and social studies. These programs use effective methods and instructional strategies that are grounded in scientifically based research.

A school is selected as a Title I school on the basis of the number of students within its boundaries who are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals. Students are selected to participate based on academic need.

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Mastery Charter School is dedicated to providing a quality education for every student in our School. Since Mastery uses School-Wide Title I Programs, all students benefit from these services. Mastery believes that a positive link between home and school create the best learning condition for every child. To accomplish this objective, Mastery develops and maintains partnerships with parents / caregivers, patrons, and community members. These open communication lines expand and enhance learning opportunities for everyone involved.

All students are expected to work toward mastering the Pennsylvania State Academic Standards for their grade level. Mastery recognizes the fact that some students will need extra assistance to achieve their full potential. The extra assistance is available through the Title I program and various other educational services offered through the school.

Mastery includes parents and guardians in all aspects of the Title I program. Students will be given every opportunity for success through the development and enhancement of the home/school partnership.

### **TITLE I PROGRAM**

The school has a Title I School-Wide Plan that describes the school's immediate needs and the programs being put in place to address those needs. Data is gathered and analyzed and goals are set for the coming year. This School-Wide Plan is evaluated annually to determine its success and to make changes to the plan as needed.

### **PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

Parents, members of the community, and school staff meet to discuss the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the Title I program regularly. Representatives from each school's parent leadership group review and update the school's Title I School-Wide Plan annually. Surveys are sent home to all parents annually about the effectiveness of the program.

The school will involve parents in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than 95 percent of the one percent reserved goes directly to the school.

## **ANNUAL MEETING FOR TITLE I PARENTS / CAREGIVERS**

Mastery holds at least one meeting annually to review Title I Policy and services offered through the school. Copies of the school's current Parent Involvement Policy are distributed both before and at the meeting. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the revising and updating the Policy as necessary.

The meeting is held each September in conjunction with Back To School Night. Notice of the meeting is on the published school calendar and is provided through written invitations to parents / caregivers. Translators are available to help with Non-English speaking parents / caregivers.

## **PARENT, STUDENT AND SCHOOL COMPACTS – WHATEVER IT TAKES CONTRACT**

In accordance with Title I regulations, the Parent, Student and School Compact is annually updated. This compact provides an outline to enable the school and parents / caregivers to share responsibility for student performance and success. This compact explains how students, parents / caregivers, and staff share responsibility for promoting student achievement.

The compacts are designed so that both the student and his/her parents sign this compact. Students and parents are encouraged to discuss the contents of the compact; they are also encouraged to sign that they are in agreement with the compact and return them to the school.

## **PARENT ACTIVITIES**

- Back to School Night – September
- School Carnivals or Block Party – Schools host events for families at the beginning of the school year.
- High School Orientation Night
- Parent Association Meetings - Parent Association provides parents with the opportunity to support their school by planning and raising funds for student celebration, academic support, and community pride related activities.
- Parent Action Team – New this year, Mastery's Parent Action Team organizes and prepares parents to advocate for broader school reform. Parent representatives from each Mastery campus meet monthly.
- Parent Teacher Conferences – Twice a year, parents meet with their children's teachers to review report cards, and discuss their child's academic progress.
- School Improvement Plan Parent Review – Parent leaders work with school leaders to develop the Annual School Improvement Plan and Annual Report.
- College and Career Preparation Meetings
  - o Internship Meetings
  - o PHEAA Financial Aid Information Night
  - o Application Night for Seniors
- Town Hall Meetings – Twice a year, parents get an update on the school's progress and have an opportunity to express concerns and ask key questions of Mastery's CEO and board members.
- Supplemental Education Services Explanation Meeting

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Mastery provides numerous opportunities for parental involvement as it strives to develop and maintain an optimum learning environment for all students:

- Parents may contribute by creating a supportive home environment.
- Parents are encouraged to participate in parent-teacher conferences.
- Parents are encouraged to attend school meetings and student programs.
- Parents may contribute through volunteer programs.
- Parents are surveyed to get input about the Title I program.
- Parents are invited to visit the school.
- Parents are encouraged to become involved with the school parent leadership committees (Parent Association, Parent Action Team, etc.).
- Translators and translation services will be provided for parents when needed upon request.

## **TITLE I COMMUNICATION**

- Report Cards sent home every six weeks
- Back To School Night Title I Presentation - September
- Parent, Student and School Compacts – Whatever It Takes Contract
- Fall Parent Teacher Conferences - October
- Winter Parent Teacher Conferences - February
- Mastery Web Site
- Parent Portal
- Town Hall Meetings – Twice a Year

## **STAFF AND PARENT COMMUNICATION**

Parents / caregivers are informed of school activities through various avenues of communication throughout the school year. They are consulted in the design, development and implementation of the Title I program.

Newsletters, teacher notes, conferences, personal contacts, phone calls and written notices are used to establish and maintain open lines of communication with parents / caregivers.

Mastery staff members are trained in positive communication activities as well as effective ways to work with parents, students, and members of the community. Mastery staff maintains a record of parent contacts throughout the school year.

In all aspects of its program, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and in a language parents understand.

## **EVALUATION**

Parents' surveys, including questions about the effectiveness of the program, are distributed and

the results tabulated each year. Teacher surveys and teacher contact records used to determine the number and kind of interaction between school and parents. The School Improvement Committee revises the Mastery Parent Involvement Policy based on the results of this annual review. The School Improvement Committee meets throughout the school year to evaluate and update the progress of Title I programs.

Please e-mail or call the Title I Coordinator, Michael Patron, at Michael.Patron@masterycharter.org (267) 671-2888 with questions or input concerning our Title I programs.

## **PARENT NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Mastery Charter School uses school-wide Title I programs. Parents of Mastery Charter students have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Mastery and The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act recognize that all children can achieve the same high standards and must be provided the education they need to reach those standards. NCLB gives parents new opportunities to make sure their child receives the very best education possible.

The No Child Left Behind Act also requires Mastery to provide parents with the following information in a timely manner if they request it. Parents have the right to request the following information about each of their child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the teacher meets the state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grades and subject he/she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and the field of discipline certification or degree.
- Whether paraprofessionals provide services to their child and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact Rebecca Schatzkin at 5700 Wayne Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19144, (215) 866-9000 x1054

It is the policy of Mastery Charter School to not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status or disability in providing educational services, activities and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended/ Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended/ the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended/ and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Mastery Charter School take steps to ensure that the lack of English language skills not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Chief Academic Officer, Jeffrey Pestrak, at 5700 Wayne Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19144, (215) 866-9000 x1064, and/or the Human Resources Specialist, Rebecca Schatzkin, at 5700 Wayne Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19144, (215) 866-9000 x1054.