

Graduation Achievement Charter High School



TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY 2016-2017

Mission

GAC High School prepares Georgia's non-traditional students for high school graduation by providing them tools to become successful and engaged adults in a global society through a **rigorous and flexible curriculum**. We will do this by being **fiscally responsible, focusing on the personal and professional development of our students and staff, and empowering young people to achieve college and career readiness**.

Overview

In order to guarantee student success, partnerships between the school and parents are vital. Parents are encouraged to participate in school activities such as the Title I meetings & parent workshops. Also consistent with section 1118 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Graduation Achievement Charter High School (GACHS) will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents. These activities will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation by parents of participating children.

Title I regulations state that school staff and parents must be involved in the planning, revision, and monitoring of certain components of a Title I program. Annual surveys and parent meetings conducted in May elicit parent feedback of GACHS programs, activities and parent involvement opportunities. Parent meeting attendees will assist in the review of academic data, Title I budget decisions, review and revision of parent involvement, etc.

GACHS builds capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents, and to support partnership among the school, parents and the community. The desired outcome is the improvement of student academic achievement through the following activities:

1. Assist parents in understanding the State's academic content standards, student academic achievement standards and academic assessments
2. Provide materials and trainings, such as literacy training and the use of technology, to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement while fostering parent involvement
3. Educate school personnel, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of parental contributions, and how to reach, communicate and work with parents
4. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other departments such as ELL, Special Education, and other programs
5. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities is sent to parents in a format and language that parents can understand

100 Edgewood Avenue, N.E.

Suite 915

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

404.481.2390

www.gradgeorgia.com

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6. Provide reasonable support for parental involvement activities at the parents' request

GACHS prides itself on the many opportunities available for parental involvement and to learn about the school and its programming. Visit GradGeorgia.Com for all event details.

Blended Model Events:

- **Title I Virtual Workshops & Meetings:** Plans for the year include live, online information sessions that cover important Title I updates, as well as academic resource tools that parents can use in the home with their students. The GACHS Parental Involvement/Homeless Liaison Coordinator, teachers and administrators will be leading parent workshops throughout the school year. The meeting invitations will be emailed and posted throughout various school communication systems. The schedule of dates will be continuously updated throughout the year. These sessions will take place through *GoToMeeting*, a web-based meeting tool. We encourage all Title I parents to attend and ask questions. We will also record these sessions for your convenience.
- **On Location Workshops & Meetings:** These workshops and meetings run concurrently with virtual workshops, but located at the Graduation Achievement Centers (GAC).
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** The conferences will provide parents with information about the academic assessments to be used and the proficiency levels of their children. Parents are encouraged to make appointments to talk with their children's teachers anytime they believe conferences are needed. Teachers are encouraged to contact parents whenever they believe conferences will benefit students.
- **Pre-recorded Information Sessions:** Please visit GradGeorgia.Com – “Title I” page

Other Activities

- **Title I Curriculum Night:** An explanation and description of GACHS curriculum, school mission statement, important dates, and academic assessments to be administered will be detailed. Other school/classroom policies and proficiency levels that students are expected to achieve will be explained.
- **Title I Annual Meeting:** During this meeting, parents will receive information on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I program requirements, the GACHS Schoolwide Plan. Parents are notified of their right to request the professional qualifications of their student's teachers and paraprofessionals. The Parental Involvement Policy, Parent-Student-Teacher Compact and the parent's responsibility for supporting their children's learning will also be shared. At this meeting, parents will be invited to use

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resources available in the Parent Center/Career Center. Information and opportunities for non-English speaking parents to participate in the education of their children will also be provided. At the conclusion of the meeting, parents will be given a parent involvement survey link to complete online (this link will also be emailed).

- In addition to the Annual Title I Meeting, other meetings and activities will be offered at flexible times to meet the needs of parents at GACHS.

These programs will be planned in response to parental concerns. Parental input is important and continues to be a part of the planning and development of new and expanding programs.

- **Parent Center/Career Center:** This resource center, located virtually, provides a library system of resources that parents can utilize to assist their student's academic progress.
- **Assessments/Parent Data Interpretation Meeting (Planning/Review):** This workshop is designed to teach parents how to access on-line assessments and how to interpret student assessment data.

Communication Systems

GACHS uses the following communication methods to provide timely information about Title I programs and the academic progress of their children. Information about school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities will be sent to parents in a practical format.

- **GACHS Website- Gradgeorgia.com:** Information about GACHS will be addressed and updated on the school's website. Assessment dates, meetings, school activities, parental involvement meetings, and any programs or issues that parents need to be aware of will be addressed on the website.
- **GACHS Email Group (Class Messenger):** Parents are consistently informed of important information, relevant dates, activities, and events through school-wide e-mails and the GACHS website.
- **GACHS Parent Support Facebook Page- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ProvostParentSupport/> :** Important information and updates for GACHS parents, as well as opportunities to interface with the GACHS Superintendent, occur on the school's parent Facebook page.

Program Evaluation

- **Parent Survey:** At the end of the school year, a survey will be posted on GACHS's website. The data collected will be submitted to GACHS and the Office of Federal Programs. Any unsatisfactory comments will be included in the Title I School Improvement Plan. Additionally, parents on the School Advisory Team will review

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parental comments and assist in addressing recommendations for improvement.

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