Ackerman Academy

Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success 2019 ~ 2020

Revised August 20, 2019

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What is Title I?
Devereux Ackerman Academy is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging state academic standards to reinforce and enhance efforts to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parental involvement. All Title I schools must jointly develop a written parental involvement policy with all parents.

What is it?
This is a plan that describes how Devereux Ackerman Academy will provide opportunities to improve parent engagement to support student learning. Devereux Ackerman Academy values the contributions and involvement of parents to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Devereux Ackerman Academy will support parent engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it revised?
Devereux Ackerman Academy invited all parents to attend our annual School Forum last spring to review and revise the Parental Involvement Policy, School Improvement Plan, our School-Parent Compact and Parental Involvement Budget. Additionally, parent’s input and comments regarding these plans are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plans are posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute an annual survey online and by mail to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parental involvement. Parents can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities throughout the school year, including our monthly treatment team meetings.

Who is it for?
All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families, are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Devereux Ackerman Academy will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English, disabilities and migratory children. In cases where students reside in a Neglected and Delinquent residential facility, a representative from that facility can serve as a proxy for the parent(s).

Where is it available?
At the beginning of the year, the plan is made available to all students and parents. As a reminder, we will mail the plan to all parents. The plan will also be posted on the school’s website and available in the Admissions Building and the School Office. In addition, parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Room through our Parent Facilitator. New students and parents will receive a copy of the policy upon admission.
2019–20 Superintendent’s Priorities

1. By the end of the 2021-2022 school year, 100% of schools will continue to use our collaborative data-driven process, Cobb Collaborative Community (CCC), with fidelity to improve learning.

2. CCSD will increase the participation rate of families and communities engaging in services/programs by 10% as measured by ParentVUE data, survey results & web view module.

3. By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, 100% of the schools and district will use a common district assessment to measure the impact of professional learning which will, in turn, guide decisions on how best to support teachers and leaders in high poverty/needs schools.

4. By the end of the 2022 school year increase effective implementation of multi-tiered systems of support by increasing access to programs/resources to prepare students for college and careers as measured by participation rates.

2019–20 School Goals

1. By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, increase the percentage of students demonstrating growth in Reading by 10% from one Benchmark to the next as measured by AIMSWeb.

2. Create opportunities for students to experience Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in a safe environment as measured by full implementation of PBIS in the classroom during the 2019-20 school year.

Let’s Get Together!
Devereux Ackerman Academy will host the following events to build capacity for strong parental involvement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community, which leads to improved academic achievement. All meetings will be held at varying times to include before and after school in order to accommodate family schedules.

Open House ~ July 31, 2019
Meet your child’s teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.

State of the School ~ September 17, 2019
Parents are given a copy of our Title I Plan along with our state’s academic content standards and assessments. The Title I School Wide Program and Title I funding /expenditures will be explained.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
STE(A)M Bus ~ September 5-6, 2019

Fall School Improvement Forum ~ October 15, 2019
Learn helpful information to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Professional Development Dates ~ September 18, 2019; November 14, 2019; January 15, 2020; April 21, 2020
Learn about strategies that will enhance learning.

Parent-Teacher and Student Conferences ~ October 15, 2019 & March 5, 2020
Updates are scheduled to discuss your child’s academic progress.

Community Connections Forum:
Barnes & Noble Book Fair ~ December 2019 & March 2020
Tommy Nobis ~ Fall 2019 & Spring 2020
Partnership to connect students to the real world while improving life and literacy skills.

Principal Forum (Pastries with the Principal) – January 15, 2020

Technology Talks ~ February 26, 2020
Find out about the latest technology resources that will help support your child’s academic progress.

Spring School Improvement Forum ~ March 25, 2020
A forum for parents to participate in roundtable discussions with the principal and staff regarding the 2019-2020: School Improvement Plan, Parental Involvement Policy, School-Parent Compact and the Parental Involvement Budget.

Parent and Partner Appreciation ~ May 7, 2020
Celebrate parent engagement and recognize community partners.
**Family Engagement**

Devereux Ackerman Academy believes that parental involvement is the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student learning and other school activities, to include the following:

- Parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school.
- 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.

Devereux Ackerman Academy is committed to helping our parents attend the parental activities listed in this plan. Please call or email our Parent Facilitator if you need assistance with childcare or transportation in order to participate in any programs, question, comments or concerns.

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Devereux Ackerman Academy will take the following measures to promote and support parents as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our goals.

- Information related to school, parent programs, meetings, and other activities are published in English and available on the school website. (Spanish copies are available upon request)
- To strengthen communication with families, all staff will be equipped with strategies and ideas to increase family engagement. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- Information is shared on the school website for parents to understand the school’s academic standards and assessments, as well as ways in which parents can monitor their child’s progress and work with educators.
- Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- Provide support materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to assist with improving their child’s achievement.
- Utilize our Partners in Education and School Leadership Team to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parental involvement policy.
- Enhance communication by facilitating ‘Good News’ phone calls, thus keeping parents informed of their child’s growth and progress towards achieving their goals.
- Collect feedback from parents at all events, place input cards in the main office and post suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents’ requests for additional support for parental involvement activities.
Family Engagement Standards
Devereux Ackerman Academy and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school’s model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

School Community Team
Devereux Ackerman Academy invites all parents to join the School Community Team to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The team will meet four times during the school year, but parents can also submit ideas or suggestions at any school activities or meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please email Sherry McKenzie, Principal, or Crista Ryan, Parent Facilitator, or complete the interest form on the right and email it to AckermanAcademy@devereux.org or leave in the main school office.

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the School Community Team.
- Please contact me so I can learn more joining the School Community Team.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: _______________________________________________________________
Child’s Name and Grade: ________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
Phone Number: _______________________________________________________
Email address: ________________________________________________________

Share Your Thoughts
We want to hear from you. If you have comments or suggestions please contact us using the email link below or stop our education office.

Name: (optional) ________________________
Telephone Number: (optional) ______________

Acknowledgment
AckermanAcademy@devereux.org