



## **School Parent, Guardian, and Family Engagement Policy 2023-2024**

### **Garinger High School**

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#### **A. Policy Involvement**

**Team Members:** Alexia Schlein, teacher; Andrea Adams, Facilitator; Sha'Quala Bennett, Teacher; Caroline Fatemi, Teacher; Hazel Huey, Parent; LeDuan Pratt, Principal; Mackenzie Riley, Assistant Principal.

1. Through the School Leadership Team, the Garinger Parental Engagement Policy was revised in May 2023. Members of the School Improvement Team (SIT) were elected by their peers to serve on this committee in May 2023. Parent engagement events will convene at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend. Every parent/guardian that has a child who currently attends Garinger High School has a right to be involved in events planned for parents, and we will notify parents through automated messages, using the ConnectEd system, in both English and Spanish. The 2023-2024 annual Title I meeting will be held during Curriculum Night.
2. Garinger staff will offer flexible times for meetings, such as mornings or evenings, and may provide funds for transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental engagement. SIT meetings will be held monthly and PTSA meetings will be held quarterly.

3. Parents will be involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs through the SIT. Parents and school staff will review policies and share decision making practices at monthly SIT meetings.
4. Staff will provide parents of students with:
  - i. Information regarding programs in a timely manner;
  - ii. Information regarding how the North Carolina Standard Course of Study are used in preparation for End of Course and North Carolina Final Exams
  - iii. Opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practically possible during the SLT meetings. Parents and staff will convene during SLT meetings to review the school's 90 day plan, Title I information, the Parental Engagement Policy and other key components of achieving academic success at Garinger High School.
5. If the school-wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the SIT will submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency. The School Parental Engagement Policy will be reviewed and edited by parents. Any corrections made to the policy will reflect the individual parent recommendations along with their name and any clarification needed.

## **B. Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement**

As a component of the school-level parental engagement policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents for all children served under this part of school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The SLT, staff, and parents will discuss the school vision and mission of Garinger High School. Upon review of these components we will collaborate to create a school compact that addresses academic needs of students while creating a climate that promotes academic social and emotional success.

## **C. Building Capacity for Engagement**

To ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Garinger High School staff and SLT shall:

- a. Work with Community In Schools (CIS), Meck Ed Foundation, Garinger Education Foundation, and Garinger's College Advisor to provide assistance to parents of children served by the school or local educational agency, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as state academic content standards, state student academic standards, state and local academic assessments, requirements of these parts, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
- b. Share pertinent information about the NC Standard Course of Study. They will also share information about grading, rubrics, common assessments developed by classroom teachers, and overall Garinger practices. The Instructional Accountability Facilitator will raise awareness among and prepare staff, students, and parents for state and local assessments administered during the 2020-2021 school year.
- c. Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement as appropriate, such as training regarding literacy, technology use, etc. to foster parental engagement. The Technology Facilitator, counselors, and staff will share information about technology used on the campus of Garinger and its connection to the NC Standard Course of Study as well as curriculum. These programs include, but are not limited to: one-to-one Chromebook distribution, wireless connectivity devices, NC Virtual Public School, Edgenuity, Canvas, Google Classroom, etc. The Technology Facilitator will work with parents and staff to address concerns that parents have with technology use.

- d. Partner with district parent organizations in order to address the needs of the parents of Garinger High School.
- e. Educate teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school.
- f. Work with parents to ensure parents: serve on the School Leadership Team, consistently share ideas, and are involved in the decision making process for students' academic success. The school will also involve the school's parent organizations in adoption of new curriculum and school related activities that are connected to community, academics, and social development of students.
- g. Parents are encouraged to make appointments with counselors, the College Advisor, Career Development Coordinator, and other support staff to discuss their child's future.
- h. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents can understand. To the extent feasible, staff shall attempt to reach all parents with bilingual communication through Connect Ed messages and various written communications.
- i. Provide such other reasonable support for parental engagement activities as parents may request.

To ensure effective engagement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, Garinger High School staff and SLT may:

- j. Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training. The School Leadership Team collaborates in decision-making about Garinger's School Improvement Plan, specifically the professional development piece.
- k. Provide necessary literacy training from funds received under this part if the district has exhausted all other reasonable sources of funding for such training.

- l. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with local parental engagement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions.
- m. Train parents to enhance the engagement of other parents. Garinger will actively partner with Communities In Schools (CIS), Meck Ed, and our parent advocates to form partnerships to increase parent engagement.
- n. Arrange school meetings at a variety of times and modalities, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers and other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental engagement and participation.
- o. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental engagement.
- p. Establish a district parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental engagement in programs supported under this section. Parents are actively recruited to join the School Leadership Team.
- q. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent engagement activities.

#### **D. Accessibility**

In carrying out the parental engagement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

Garinger staff understand our students and their families speak multiple languages; staff know how to access district interpreter resources and bilingual school staff to facilitate parent and family communication, as well as additional resources such as online texting communication tools. Garinger staff make every effort to communicate with parents of children learning English by using resources within and outside the school and district, and through local organizations and church based organizations who advocate for parents who do not speak English.