

Schenectady City School District

Schenectady, New York

Mont Pleasant Middle School

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

2010-2011

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY & SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

*NCLB requirement for all Title I schools*

**Part A: School Parental Involvement Policy**

**I. General Expectations**

Mont Pleasant Middle School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- A. The school will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- B. The school will ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policy meets the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and includes, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- C. The school will incorporate this parental involvement policy into its school improvement plan.
- D. In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, 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 required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- E. The school will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A programs in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent.
- F. The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

1. Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—
  - a. that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
  - b. that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
  - c. that 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; the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.
  - d. The school will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in the New York State is located in Rochester NY. The website is:  
<http://www.epicforchildren.org/locations.cfm?id=5266&cat=1336&grpid=1341>

## **II. How Mont Pleasant Middle School Will Implement the Required Parental Involvement Policy Components**

- A. Mont Pleasant Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
  1. Parent representatives will be invited to a joint meeting with the school to review and suggest changes to the policy.
  2. A simple majority vote will determine the final policy statement
- B. Mont Pleasant Middle School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
  1. A committee composed of parent and staff will review school data relevant to school programs and make suggestion for modifications to program procedures
- C. Mont Pleasant Middle School will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
  1. The school will form a Parent Partnership Team designed to increase student achievement by providing home focused, school focused and partnership focused

activities and strategies in a coordinated manner

- D. Mont Pleasant Middle School will coordinate and integrate Title I parental involvement strategies with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs: Reading First, Special Education and State-operated preschool programs, by:
1. Ensuring that program supervisors are aware of the parent involvement requirements under NCLB
  2. Information and opportunities are provided to supervisors, teachers, and parents of children in these programs to receive timely information about workshop opportunities available to them
- E. Mont Pleasant Middle School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving school quality. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.
1. The annual evaluation will be conducted by the schools Parent Partnership Team which is a team composed of school and parent representatives. This team meets monthly to plan focused activities and strategies in alignment with school goals and designed to improve student achievement

An annual meeting will be held to:

2. Review the current policy and make recommendations for modification of activities based on changing school goals and data about achievement
3. The evaluation will be conducted by reviewing relevant student achievement data including the school's portfolio of activities and events held during the previous school year.
4. The information will allow the Team to identify gaps in the effort and allow for the development of changes to close gaps in the achievement of schools goals.

E. Mont Pleasant Middle School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership with the parents and the community, to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

The school will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as

appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:

1. the State's academic content standards
2. the State's student academic achievement standards
3. the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments, the requirements of Part A, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators:
4. (List activities, such as workshops, conferences, classes, both in-State and out-of-State, including any equipment or other materials that may be necessary to ensure success.)

5. Workshop:

- Reaching the Hardest To Involve Parents/ Speakers and Presentations
- Study Skills for Parents/Test Prep for Parents

6. The school will provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- a. Providing materials to parents about NYS Standards, Homework Tips, How to raise a successful student, reading, math science and English Language Arts strategies
- b. The importance regular school attendance, homework workshop, etc.
- c. The school will provide parents with opportunities for parent in both written and workshop format, information about how to work with their child in core content areas, information about the Standards and testing, and workshops based upon parent surveys such as:

1) Back To School Orientation –

- Friends of Music
- Healthy Homes-Healthy people
- Fidelis Care
- Home Access

2) International Night – Study Circles component

3) Winter Concert – Health and Nutrition (Hometown Nurses)

4) Spring Concert – Summer Camp (Central Park program); Boys/Girls Club

5) New York State Exam Parent Information Night – February 10<sup>th</sup>

- Internet Safety

7. The school will, with the assistance of its parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principal and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:
  - a. Parents and staff will be encouraged to attend a summer workshop entitled "Reaching the Hardest To Involve Parents", workshop designed to help parents and teachers form "Parent Partnership Teams" at the school level
  - b. The school will continue to support the parent partnership Team Program that provides a coordinated approach to increasing parent involvement meeting the requirements of NCLB
  - c. Workshops will be offered to staff such as:

All Teaching staff must take 30 hours of staff developed offered through the District, these include offering such as:

- 1) 25 hours- Technological literacy; Applications, software and opportunity within the Schenectady City Schools computer network
- 2) Already Ready Nurturing Writers in Pre-school and Kindergarten
- 3) Analysis of NYS math tests-elementary
- 4) Assessing Student Reading Levels and Introduction to Guided Reading Grades K-2
- 5) Assessing Student Reading Levels and Introduction to Guided Reading Grades 3 - 6
- 6) ATLAS Tutoring Data Analysis 2008-2009
- 7) Balanced Literacy in 3-4 Classrooms
- 8) Balanced Literacy K-2
- 9) Basic Computer Skills for Anyone - Part 1
- 10) Basic Computer Skills for Anyone -Part 2
- 11) Book Club/Literary Review
- 12) Effective Literacy Instruction in the Intermediate Classroom
- 13) Effective Literacy Teaching in the Primary Classroom

- 14) Guided Reading Lesson Planning and Teaching Grades 3 - 6
  - 15) Guided Reading Lesson Planning and Teaching Grades K-2
  - 16) Impact of Grammar on Core Academic Subjects
  - 17) Introduction to Readers Workshop: The First 20 Days of Independent Reading Grades 3 - 6
  - 18) Islam 101: Myths and Realities
  - 19) National Board Certification Skills - Investigation of the NBC Process & Reflection on Current Practice in Light of National Board Standards
  - 20) National Board Certification Support Group
  - 21) Reader's Workshop K-2: An Introduction to Shared and Independent Reading, Managed Independent Learning Centers, and Guided Reading
  - 22) Understanding Lucy Caulkins
8. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Reading First, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by:
- a. Offering parents the opportunity to attend a "Parent Academy", designed to increase parent's knowledge and skills in supporting their children's academic achievement.
  - b. Parents will be offered workshops and other opportunities such as conference attendance and visitation to other programs
9. The school will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- a. Parents will receive written communications from the school in a language parents can understand, to the extent practicable in flyers and through the school newsletter

Schenectady City School District

Schenectady, New York

Mont Pleasant Middle School

SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

2010 - 2011

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY & SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT

*NCLB requirement for all Title I schools*

Part A: School Parental Involvement Policy

IV. Adoption

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs. This policy was adopted by the Mont Pleasant Middle School on 12/10/10 and will be in effect for the period of one school year. The school will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I, Part A children in September of the appropriate school year.

SIGNATURES:

MONT PLEASANT MIDDLE SCHOOL

<u>Michael Bush</u>	<u>Deather Ely</u>	<u>Kerry Burt</u>
PRINCIPAL	PARENT(S)	TEACHER
<u>12-10-10</u>	<u>12/10/10</u>	<u>12/13/10</u>
DATE	DATE	DATE
_____	_____	_____
	PARENT(S)	TEACHER
_____	_____	_____

**Schenectady City School District**

**Schenectady, New York**

**Mont Pleasant Middle School**

**2010-2011**

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY & SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**  
*NCLB requirement for all Title I schools*

**Part B: School-Parent Compact**

Mont Pleasant Middle School, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the 2010-11 school year.

**Required School-Parent Compact Provisions**

**School Responsibilities**

1. Mont Pleasant Middle School will:

Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

- Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School serve on district sponsored curriculum writing projects.
- A portion of the common planning time—team time—will be dedicated to curriculum and instruction.
- Department meetings and meetings with coordinators will focus on curriculum and instruction.
- Increased frequency of regularly scheduled time for faculty and staff to share, reflect and learn about the implementation of effective instructional techniques and strategies.
- Professional development will focus on improved instruction and promoting positive schools behaviors.

- Mission statement of Mont Pleasant Middle School emphasizes ensures challenging and integrated curricula.
  - Students are given support through our before and after school programs.
  - The Mont Pleasant Middle School staff will provide a safe, orderly learning environment.
  - Teachers will connect student learning to life experiences
  - Teachers will provide AIS and remediation services as needed
  - The MPMS staff will connect students with community mentors
  - Teachers and administrators will encourage lifelong learning
2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:
- Parent conferences at the Middle School level are initiated by teachers and/or parents/guardians.
  - The compact will be shared at our PTSO meeting, Parent Partnership meetings and Parent Information Nights.
3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
- Computer Access from Home
  - Parent conferences when requested
  - Interim reports
  - Progress reports
  - Newsletters
  - Email contact
  - Agenda Planners
  - Phone Calls
  - Teacher Notes
  - Attendance letters and Team progress letters
4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:
- Parent conferences will be set up and can be requested by the parents by calling the school.
  - Office hours are established by teachers for students to obtain extra help.
  - Email system
  - Student Agenda use, is another method for parent/teachers to communicate with staff
  - Parent information nights are scheduled.
  - Back to School night.
  - Grade 6 transition program

- Grade 8 orientation night at Schenectady High School
5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:
    - Parents make arrangements via the guidance office or through the principal to observe classrooms.
    - Parent may sign up with our PTSO, BLT or PPT
    - Parents may be chaperones, volunteers and cooks for Black History, Hispanic Heritage Nights and International Night events to volunteer their time or participate in activities.
    - Teachers seek out parents to volunteer for field trips and other activities.
  6. Provide parents with referrals to community health, counseling and juvenile justice services

### **Parent Responsibilities**

- We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:
  - Making sure that students attend school regularly and on time.
  - Making sure that homework is completed.
  - Monitoring amount of television their children watch.
  - Volunteering in my child's classroom.
  - Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education
  - Making sure that my child uses their time out of school wisely
  - Look at the student's agenda planner each day and oversee homework completion.
  - Follow established school procedures as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.
  - Support the school's efforts to provide a safe and orderly environment.
  - Encourage their child to read daily.
  - Motivate my children to learn

Parents are encouraged to:

- Stay informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State's Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

## Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards.

Specifically, we will:

- Do homework every day and ask for help when I need it
- Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time
- Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day
- Arrive at school on time ready and willing to learn
- Stay healthy by eating healthy meals, nutritious snacks and by getting enough exercise and rest
- Follow the policies and procedures spelled out in our Student Handbook.
- Abide by the expectations in our Student Code of Discipline
- Promote our Positive Behavior in our School Program.

