

Druid Hills Academy Parent Involvement Policy 2021-2022

Dr. Carla G. Mathis, Principal

At Druid Hills Academy, a Title I school, we encourage strong parent and community involvement and engagement. Active parental and community involvement greatly affect our students' academic and social/emotional success. This policy represents a living, fluid document designed to be inclusive of parental, community members, and other school stakeholders' input.

1. Policy Development: Input is solicited from parents, community members, and school stakeholders. A parent suggestion box is in the main office as a mean to collect parent input. Parents may also provide input via email and verbally. The team finalizes the plan each spring after all comments have been reviewed. The team reviews and updates the policy annually as needed.
2. The school administration team holds an Annual Title I Meeting within the first 45 days inform parents of the parental requirements under Title I Section 1118. The team encourages parents to participate in their child's education, stay informed of their rights, and become involved at Druid Hills Academy.
3. Parent meetings and workshops occur at various times of the day to accommodate parents' work schedules. Scheduled meetings and events include: School Improvement Team (SIT) Meetings, Open House, Student Recognition events, Parent Conferences, Curriculum Week, EOG Parent Information Session, and Parent and Student Movie Night. The PTA provides refreshments to help increase parents' attendance at meetings.
4. The Title I team provides parent workshops designed to help parents work with their children to achieve academic and social growth. Funds allocated through Title I funds provides parent workshop materials, facilitators and other necessary expenses to increase parental involvement.

5. The school administration encourages parents to participate in the planning, reviewing, and improvement of the school's Title 1 program at School Improvement Team Meetings (SIT) and placing their input in our Parent Suggestion Box which is available to all parents daily at Druid Hills Academy.
6. Parents and community members may access an electronic copy of the school-wide plan on the school's website and a hard copy upon request from the secretaries in the main office. Parents may submit comments on the plan in writing to the principal's office.
7. At the present time, Druid is a school reform status. The school operates under North Carolina's RESTART reformation model. Druid Hills Academy also has the Targeted Support and Improvement School (TSI) designation due to two of two subgroups that have been consistently underperforming, according to the state's accountability system.
8. Parents receive timely notices about parental involvement opportunities through several mediums:
School newsletters, e-mail, ConnectEd messages, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, The school website
(<https://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/druidhillsacademyES/Pages/Default.aspx>)
School Improvement Team Meetings and school marquee.
9. Teachers provide parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum utilized at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Parents receives the following information:
 - The purpose of Title I and the school's Title I allocation
 - Various other federal and state programs that assist in raising the achievement level of all the students (i.e. IDEA, Title V, Act 135, EAA) and the resources available to the parents and their children due to the additional federal and state funds.
 - Additional programs that help raise the achievement level of the students most academically in need.

The following academic assessments serve as measurements used to determine academic growth and proficiency levels.

- Universal screeners, MAP Testing in Reading and Math, NC Check-in Benchmarks, EOG Assessments, and teacher-made assessments.

10. Parents receive communication in a language they can understand.
11. The Title I team hosts regular meetings throughout the year to allow parents the opportunity to make suggestions and recommendations relating to the education of students at Druid. All school staff respond to parents' requests and comments within 48 hours.
12. In the Spring, parents receive the school-parent compact to review and provide input. Parents serving on the School Improvement Team (SIT) takes parents' comments into consideration when revising the school-parent compact.

