

ACCESS YOUTH CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM SCHOOLS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY



DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY

This Policy was developed with input from parents and guardians of students attending ACCESS Youth Correctional Education Programs (YCEP). This Policy is reviewed annually and updated as needed by the School Site Council, and distributed at the Title I Annual Meeting. The Policy is available to families and the community on the Fischer School website: <http://www.ocde.us/ACCESS/FischerAU/Pages/default.aspx>.

INVOLVEMENT

Research tells us that family engagement in schools makes a big difference. When schools, families, and communities work together, student achievement increases. ACCESS YCEP schools welcome and encourage family participation in a variety of ways.

1. ACCESS YCEP convenes an annual meeting for families to inform them of the school's participation in Title I Programs, requirements of family involvement, and rights of families to be involved.
 - Title I Annual Meetings are held in conjunction with Open House and/or other parent events at the institutions.
2. ACCESS YCEP offers a flexible number of meetings to accommodate the diverse schedules of our families.
 - Open House events are held in conjunction with weekend visiting hours.
 - Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) meetings are held during the lunch hour to allow families and Probation staff to attend.
3. ACCESS YCEP involves families in an organized, on-going, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of programs regarding family involvement, including the School's Family Engagement Policy and development/revision of school-wide program plans.
 - These documents are reviewed annually and updated as needed by the School Site Council.
4. ACCESS YCEP provides families with timely information about the curriculum, forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
 - Curriculum and assessment information, including state testing results, is included in the School Accountability Report Card (SARC), available on the Fischer School website: <http://www.ocde.us/ACCESS/FischerAU/Pages/default.aspx>. Additional information on curriculum, standards, and assessment is provided to families at school events and the Title I Annual Meeting.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

1. ACCESS YCEP jointly develops with and distributes to families a School-Family Compact that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, and the means by which the school and families build and develop a partnership to help achieve California's high standards.
2. The compact describes the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning.
3. The compact addresses the importance of ongoing communication between teachers and families through conferences in which the compact is discussed as it relates to each child's achievement, frequent reports to families regarding their children's progress, reasonable access to staff, and opportunities to volunteer and participate in school activities.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

1. ACCESS YCEP provides assistance to families in understanding the state's academic content standards, state student achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, requirements for family involvement, how to monitor their child's progress, and how to work with educators to improve the achievement of their children.
 - The above information is provided at the Title I Annual Meeting and/or other school events.
2. ACCESS YCEP provides materials and training to help families work with their children to improve achievement.
 - Materials and training are provided at workshops, parenting classes, the Title I Annual Meeting, and are available on the Fischer School website:
<http://www.ocde.us/ACCESS/FischerAU/Pages/default.aspx>.
3. ACCESS YCEP educates teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff with the assistance of families, in the value and utility of contributions of families, and how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with families as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between families and the school.
 - To build the capacity for all school staff to support family engagement, training is provided at regional staff development meetings, conferences, and workshops.
 - All YCEP school sites receive a Family Events Toolkit that provides guidance for implementing effective family engagement events.
4. To the extent feasible and appropriate, ACCESS YCEP coordinates and integrates family involvement programs and activities with other federal programs, and conducts other activities that encourage and support families to more fully participate in the education of their children.
5. ACCESS YCEP translates and makes available to families in their primary language information regarding school programs, family programs, meeting notices, agendas, minutes, and handouts.
6. ACCESS YCEP provides other reasonable support for family involvement activities as families may request.

ACCESSIBILITY

1. ACCESS YCEP provides full opportunities for the participation of families with Limited English Proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children.
 - ACCESS YCEP provides materials and conducts trainings in the language spoken by families as required by law.

Local Board approval date: June 22, 2016