

Adopted: July 20, 2017

## 113 FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### I. PURPOSE

- A. It is the purpose of this policy to assist in meeting the school mission: Kato Public Charter School is a safe, learning community providing each student a foundation for independence.
- B. It is the purpose of this policy to support in helping all stakeholders pursue Kato PCS school values, which are: **Community, Responsibility, Respect and Growth**
- C. Kato Public Charter School is dedicated to providing quality education for every student. In pursuit of this goal, the board wishes to promote the establishment of partnerships with parents and with the community. Each student will benefit from supportive, active involvement when the school, home, and community work together to promote high achievement for our students.

### II. PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING THE POLICY

- A. The school's policy committee researched available resources and created a draft policy that was presented for review, comment and edit to external stakeholders including parents, community members, staff and students.
- B. The Family, School and Community Engagement policy will be revised annually by soliciting input from stakeholders including parents, community members, students and staff in order to meet the changing needs of students, parents and the school.

### III. TITLE I

- A. Kato Public Charter School receives federal funding for special programs and services under Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I services are for eligible students who need additional academic support. Funding for Title I is based on the number of students qualifying for benefits under the federal food program.
- B. Legal Requirement – The purpose of Title I is to enhance opportunities for students to attain and maintain grade level skills. The law affecting Title I is ESSA. The law requires:
  - 1. Notification in the form of an Annual Report Card
  - 2. Parent's right to know about teacher qualifications
  - 3. Testing transparency
  - 4. Language Instruction
- C. Title I Annual Meeting - At the Title I annual meeting parents will be given information about Title I guidelines. Parents will be given copies of this policy and will be offered the opportunity to have input into revising and updating the policy as needed. The annual meeting will be held at the convenience of parents and offered at least two different times of the day. Parents will be sent written notices about the meeting times.

- D. Parent compacts - In accordance with Title I regulations the school will provide, to parents, a school-parent compact that is designed to increase the sharing of responsibility between families and schools for the high performance of students. Every parent shall receive a copy of the school parent compact. Although signatures are not required, parents and students are urged to sign the document and discuss the importance of the compact.
- E. Matching Programs to the Needs of our community - Each year the school will assess the needs of parents and student through a variety of measures so that the Title I program will be tailored to support student success.
- F. Staff Parent Communication - Parents are welcomed and encouraged to communicate with Kato PCS staff, as needed, through a variety of means including: conferencing, email, telephone, and written communication. Communication with parents will also be included in the school newsletter, on the school website and on the school Facebook page. Parents are encourage to take the initiative in contacting their student's teacher when they are concerned about a problem. Parents have access to their student's academic and other information through Project Foundry and JMC.
- G. Evaluation - The school leadership team will be involved in the process of school improvement. Parents and children in the Title I program will be a focus of this group. The purpose will be to evaluate the school by collecting information in a variety of ways. There will be an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Title I parent involvement program and parents will be asked for their input. This evaluation will include an assessment of how much parent involvement is increasing and what barriers to parent participation still need to be overcome. The school will revise its Family, School and Community Engagement policy on the basis of this annual review.

**(Legal and Cross References are constantly changing: these items shall remain under review)**

**Legal References:**

**Cross References:**