

WHISPERING WINDS CHARTER SCHL Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Plan

I, J. Suzann Cornell, do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of assurances for these waivers. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.

Assurances

- The school will be governed by the statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with the definition outlined in Section 9101(32), ESEA;
- Involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A in decisions about how Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement are spent [Section 1118(b)(1) and (c)(3)];
- Jointly develop/revise with parents the school parental involvement policy and distribute it to parents of participating children and make available the parental involvement plan to the local community [Section 1118 (b)(1)];
- Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under this part, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parental involvement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under section 1114(b)(2) [Section 1118(c)(3)];
- Use the findings of the parental involvement policy review to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the school's parental involvement policy [Section 1118(a)(E)];
- If the plan for Title I, Part A, developed under Section 1112, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the local educational agency [Section 1118(b)(4)];
- Provide to each parent an individual student report about the performance of their child on the state assessment in at least mathematics, language arts, and reading [Section 1111(h)(6)(B)(i)];
- Provide each parent timely notice when their child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified within the meaning of the term in 34 CFR Section 200.56 [Section 1111(h)(6)(B)(ii)]; and
- Provide each parent timely notice information regarding their right to request information on the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals [Section (h)(6)(A)].

Signature of Principal or Designee

Date Signed

Mission Statement

Parental Involvement Mission Statement (Optional)

Response: Whispering Winds Charter School, in consultation with teachers, the principal, the school advisory committee, and parents of enrolled children, have developed and agreed upon this parent involvement policy.

Whispering Winds Charter School solicits the participation of parents in support of student learning and recognizes that parental involvement increases the opportunities for student success. It is the policy of Whispering Winds Charter School to foster and

maintain ongoing communications with parents concerning their opportunities for involvement, their children's eligibility for special programs, their children's educational progress, the professional qualifications of their children's teachers, and the status of the children's schools. Whispering Winds Charter School strives to provide such information in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand. To the extent practicable, Whispering Winds Charter School shall 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 to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. Communications with parents shall, at all times, respect the privacy of students and their families.

Involvement of Parents

Describe how the school will involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs including involvement in the decisions regarding how funds for parental involvement will be used [Sections 1118(c)(3), 1114(b)(2), and 1118(a)(2)(B)].

Response: Parent information

and opportunities to become

involved is given to all parents

throughout the school year.

Whispering Winds offers

the following activities to all

parents: Title I Annual Information Day/Night (Flexible), Open House, Math Night, Info Night for Standardized Assessments,, Parent-Teacher ~~conferences~~ *Literacy Night*

Conferences, Volunteer activities as part of the enrollment agreement, *Literacy*

One-on-one Orientation, SAC Meetings, and

(One call All call home)

PTO meetings. Information

concerning time, dates and

activities will be available in

newsletters, school marquee,

take home flyers, and the

school's website. Members will

be voted on during the first SAC

meeting. Parents will be

encouraged to join and have the

opportunity to participate in the

decision making process. SAC is the decision-making entity of the school. Parents are given a survey seeking input on activities, training and materials they need to help their child. The SAC Committee will review and discuss strategies and activities for the SIP and for the PIP. The SAC Committee will also be responsible for creating the School Involvement Plan and conducting a SIP midyear review. Use of Parental Involvement Funds will be discussed at SAC meetings and at the Annual Title 1 Meeting. Documentation of parent participation will

include agendas, and minutes of the meetings. It is the policy of Whispering Winds Charter School to foster and maintain ongoing communications with parents concerning their opportunities for involvement, their children's eligibility for special programs, their children's educational progress, the professional qualifications of their children's teachers, and the status of the children's schools. Whispering Winds Charter School strives to provide such information in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language that parents can understand. To the extent practicable, Whispering Winds Charter School shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disability and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. Communications with parents shall, at all times, respect the privacy of students and their families.

Families of children attending Whispering Winds Charter School are required to volunteer 20 hours per year to the school. During the 2014-15 school year 98% of our families complied with the volunteer policy. We expect equal to or above compliance this year.

Coordination and Integration

Describe how the school will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities that teach parents how to help their children at home, to the extent feasible and appropriate, including but not

limited to, other federal programs such as: Head Start, Early Reading First, Even Start, Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, public preschool, Title I, Part C, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Title VI [Section 1118(e)(4)].

count	Program	Coordination
1	VPK/Kindergarten Roundup	Incoming kindergarteners and their parents spend the day in Kindergarten, they are involved in the curriculum, activities for home and school
2	Back to School Registration	Parents are provided with a Parent Resource guide with information about programs, services and Title I activities throughout the year
3	Title I Yearly Meeting	Title I information
4	SAC Meetings	Parents/Staff meet to discuss/review information as it relates to Whispering Winds Charter School. Quarterly meetings advertised on the school sign and sent home as a notice in backpacks
5	PTO	Parents/Teachers meet and plan activities and events for schoolwide participation
6	Parent Involvement District Advisory Committee	Parents are given information about the District Title I District Advisory Committee. information is handed out in the backpack at the beginning of school
7	Agreement to volunteer	All parents/families agree to volunteer 20 hours per year or 2 hours per month. We give credit for open house, parent workshops, classroom volunteerism, and also "at home" activities for those who are unable to come during school hours.
8	Parent/Child Make and Take	We do a "make and take" night in the Fall and in the Spring
9	Step Up	Each year in the Spring, we set up a "Step Up" day. Each child spends part of the day in the next grade level class. We coordinate with the charter middle school to arrange a Step Up to Middle School Day. We invite parents to attend with us.
10	Parent Volunteers	All parents/families will donate 2 hours per month or 20 hours per year to the school, as research shows improvement in student's academics when parents are involved in their education.
11	WWCS Board Meetings	Parents are encouraged to attend board meetings, bring ideas, and if interested, become a board member
12	New Family Orientation	We are now meeting individually with parents of new students to go over all information from school policies, Title I information, volunteer information, etc.
13	Math Night	We have a math night in the Fall to help parents understand more about our math program

Annual Parent Meeting

Describe the specific steps the school will take to conduct an annual meeting designed to inform parents of participating children about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program (schoolwide or targeted assistance), Adequately Yearly Progress, school choice, supplemental educational services, and the rights of parents. Include timeline, persons responsible, and evidence the school will use to demonstrate the effectiveness of the activity [Section 1118(c)(1)].

count	Activity/Tasks	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Maintain documentation	Principal/secretary	ongoing	ongoing
2	Develop sign-in sheets	Teachers	to be signed at meeting	count
3	Advertise on the school website	Principal	Banner one week before meeting	number of people attending
4	We sent home flyers	Principal	month and week before event	number of people who come to meeting

Flexible Parent Meetings

Describe how the school will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services related to parental involvement [Section 1118(c)(2)].

Response: Workshops and meetings will be offered during the school year, during a variety of times and days to help assure that parents have the opportunity to participate. During each of these opportunities, childcare and food will be provided, when allowable. Teachers will hold parent conferences before school or evening when needed. This year each teacher met with every parent during the first 9 weeks. SAC will make recommendations on parent involvement meetings and workshops for the school year. This input will include both workshop topics and scheduling issues, such as dates, days and times offered. At the end of each workshop, parent feedback will be requested and will be reviewed at the following SAC meeting. Using this feedback, topics and scheduling of future workshops will be adjusted if needed in order to address parental concerns. We make monthly parent contact, and our teachers and administrator meet with any parent normally on the same day, if not, the following day. We meet before school and after school and will schedule weekend and evening appointments.

Informational meetings on FSA 11/6 and 13.

Monthly meetings held with each parent in person whenever possible, but on phone when not.

Any parent who cannot come to any meeting is given the same information in the same format at a time when they can come. We are small and provide one-on-one presentations to any parent who needs to come at an unconventional time. We have met with parents at 10:00 p.m. and at 7:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning.

Building Capacity

Describe how the school will implement activities that will build the capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement [Section 1118(e)]. Describe the actions the school will take to provide materials and training to help parents work with their child to improve their child's academic achievement [Section 1118(e)(2)]. Include information on

how the school will provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Section 1118 as parents may request [Section 1118(e)(14)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	Explanation of assessments to parents	Classroom teachers	Increased parent involvement leads to increased test scores	First 9 weeks	Test scores
2	School website	Principal/staff	increase awareness of school activities	Throughout the 2015-16	Logs showing online activity
3	Daily Planner	Classroom teachers	Teachers send home daily homework/work/communication every day. Each child has a planner/notebook.	Fall through Spring 2014-15	Throughout school year
4	End of testing celebration field day	Staff	Motivate students to do their best	Spring 2016	Sign-up sheets
5	Awards Night Ceremony	Staff	Highlight students' strengths	Spring 2016	Classroom teachers focus on strengths of each student
6	"Mandatory" volunteer hours	Principal	Increase parent involvement	Fall 2015 through Spring 2016	Sign-up sheets
7	Literacy and Math Nights	Principal/staff	Increase parents involvement and knowledge	Fall 2015	Sign-in sheets
8	FAIR, FLKRS, i-Ready	K-5 teachers	Monitor student progress towards grade level expectations	First 9 weeks of school	sign-in sheets
9	Individual meetings with first report card (standards based)	K-5 teachers	Explain standards based report cards, where their child is and should be	End of first 9 weeks	Log from teacher

Staff Training

Describe the professional development activities the school will provide to educate the teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, 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 [Section 1118(e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline	Evidence of Effectiveness
1	✱ Book Study: <u>The Essential Conversation</u>	Principal and Staff	To help teachers know how to begin and maintain positive relationships with families	Throughout the 2015-16 school year	Minutes from Teacher in-staff meetings

Other Activities

Describe the other activities, such as parent resource centers, the school will conduct to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children [Section 1118 (e)(4)].

Response: We have a very active PTO this year. They have renovated the library, sorted the books and done fundraisers. Most importantly they are at the school developing relationships with the teachers and staff. We also have had very active volunteers who

are working in the classroom supporting instruction. Each family donates a minimum of 20 hours per year. Most families have already exceeded that amount.

Communication

Describe how the school will provide parents of participating children the following [Section 1118(c)(4)]:

- Timely information about the Title I programs [Section 1118(c)(4)(A)];
- Description and explanation of the curriculum at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet [Section 1118(c)(4)(B)];
- If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children [Section 1118(c)(4)(C)]; and
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114 (b)(2) is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will include submit the parents' comments with the plan that will be made available to the local education agency [Section 1118(c)(5)].

Response: We hand out a Parent Resource notebook at our which includes all information about Title I programs. We provide Title I requirements, grade level expectations, information on assessments and the FSA. As information changes, we send home addendums to add to the Parent Resource notebook throughout the school year. We provide information on parent nights, District SAC meetings, Whispering Winds SAC meetings, District ESE meetings for parents of children with disabilities, and other meetings that may benefit parents.

All children have a daily planner. ^{notebook} There are sections for homework, school news, District news and calendar, District Title I information, and a daily reading log, and communication section.

Our charter requires that all teachers make a minimum of monthly contact with parents. Most of the teachers make weekly contact, and some daily.

The principal and teachers answer all phone calls within 24 hours.

We provide information on our website: www.whisperingwindscharter.com

We also use the District's phone system to send mass messages to remind about upcoming events/meetings.

Accessibility

Describe how the school will provide full opportunities for participation in parental involvement activities for all parents (including parents with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and migratory children). Include how the school plans to share information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports, and other activities in an understandable and uniform format and to the extent practical, in a language parents can understand [Section 1118(e)(5) and 1118(f)].

Response: We have a Title I meeting at the beginning of the year, an Open House in September as well as one family activity each month. Some of these are specific for different needs, such as Math night, to teach parents about our math program, and some are for general conversations about our compact, contract and other parent involvement activities. Notice of these meetings is sent home in backpacks and posted on our school marquee.

Discretionary Activities

Discretionary School Level Parental Involvement Policy Components Check if the school does not plan to implement discretionary parental involvement activities. Check all activities the school plans to implement:

count	Activity	Description of Implementation Strategy	Person Responsible	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement	Timeline
1	Training parents to enhance the involvement of other parents [Section 1118(e)(9)];	One of our "super volunteers" that we recruited last year, we trained to recruit and involve other parents. As a result, our volunteer hours for the first quarter of the year has doubled from this time last year.	Staff/Shawn Royce	The more parents become aware of expectations, the more they are able to help.	ongoing
2	Maximizing parental involvement and participation in their children's education by arranging school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school [Section 1118(e)(10)];	Every meeting we have had this year, we have had in the afternoon and duplicated in the evening. We also meet individually with parents when they cannot attend either.	WWCS Staff	Parents know we are serious about our commitment to their family when we are willing to meet them individually at any time.	whenever we have an informational meeting

Upload Evidence of Input from Parents

Upload evidence of parent input in the development of the plan.

Upload Parent-School Compact

Note: As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy/plan, each school shall jointly develop, with parents for all children served under this part, a parent-school compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement Section 1118(d)].

Upload an electronic version of the Parent-School Compact.

Upload Evidence of Parent Involvement in Development of Parent-School Compact

Note: As a component of the school-level parental involvement policy/plan, each school shall jointly develop, with parents for all children served under this part, a parent-school compact that outlines how

parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement Section 1118(d)].

Upload evidence of parent input in the development of the compact.

Evaluation of the previous year's Parental Involvement Plan

Building Capacity Summary

Provide a summary of activities provided during the previous school year that were designed to build the capacity of parents to help their children [Section 1118 (e)(1-2)]. Include participation data on the Title I annual meeting.

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
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1. Title I

2. Literacy night

3. Math Night

4. Standards/Testing Info. Night

Staff Training Summary

Provide a summary of the professional development activities provided by the school during the previous school year to educate staff on the value and utility of contributions of parents; how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners; the implementation and coordination of parent programs; and how to build ties between parents and the school [Section 1118 (e)(3)].

count	Content and Type of Activity	Number of Activities	Number of Participants	Anticipated Impact on Student Achievement
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Barriers

Describe the barriers that hindered participation by parents during the previous school year in parental involvement activities. Include the steps the school will take during the upcoming school year to overcome the barriers (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) [Section 1118(a)(E)].

count	Barrier (Including the Specific Subgroup)	Steps the School will Take to Overcome
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Best Practices (Optional)

time offer optional meeting times
transportation offer various times/days and help find methods of transportation

Describe the parental involvement activity/strategy the school implemented during the previous school year that the school considers the most effective. This information may be shared with other LEAs and schools as a best practice. (Optional)

count	Content/Purpose	Description of the Activity
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Events with student performance/presentation.

went over by Mandi Walker, Kim Bartley, +
Jody Woods