Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Board Policy:
Gateway Preparatory Academy believes that ongoing parental involvement is imperative to the success of students. As a school receiving Title I funding, we encourage parents to participate as volunteers, by attending board meetings, and participating in the Parent Organization.

Gateway Preparatory Academy recognizes that some students may need the extra assistance available through the Title I program to reach the state’s high academic standards. Gateway intends to include parents in all aspects of the school’s Title I program. The goal is a school-home partnership that will help all students to succeed.

Gateway Preparatory Academy will jointly develop/revise with parents the school Parent and Family Engagement policy (PFE) and distribute it to parents of participating children and make available the PFE to the local community. The policy will be discussed annually in a board meeting. Parent input will be invited and encouraged. The board will approve the plan.

Communication with parents is an essential building block in the success of individual students. Gateway Preparatory Academy will communicate pertinent information with parents regarding parent involvement, their child’s achievement, and the school’s performance. This will include, but is not limited to, the following; a weekly newsletter sent through email and posts on our website. School-wide communication from teachers and administration are also sent home on a weekly basis. Progress reports are available weekly through the school’s SIS. Paper copies are available in the front office. Translation in other languages will be available as needed and to the extent possible. For further assistance or support, please contact the front office at 435-867-5558.

Gateway Preparatory Academy will convene a Title I orientation meeting annually in conjunction with our “Parent Orientation” night at the beginning of each school year. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting will be to inform parents of Gateway Preparatory Academy’s participation under Title I and to explain parent’s rights to be involved in their student’s education. Administration or teachers will also inform parents about curriculum, challenging State academic standards, forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.

School administration will utilize a School-Parent-Student compact. The purpose of the Gateway Preparatory Academy provides Iron County K - 8 students an education that focuses on individual skills, abilities and needs. Our strengths include our child centered approach - the use of the Montessori method - as well as the arts and special education. Established in 2008, we provide an individualized experience focused on student growth while preparing students to be productive members of the community.
compact is to increase student academic achievement by outlining responsibilities of parents, school staff, and students. The compact shall address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis. The compact shall be distributed to all parents through the Parent/Student Handbook and annual registration paperwork. The Compact shall be discussed annually in a parent teacher conference as the compact relates to the individual child’s achievement. Translation in other languages will be available as needed and to the extent possible.

Gateway will collect suggestions and comments from parents on an annual basis. This information will be provided to parents, and considered in the revision of the Parent and Family Engagement policy and to evaluate the academic quality of our school.

In addition, Parent Education Meetings will be held, at a minimum, quarterly with an effort to accommodate various parent schedules. Parent Education Meetings will educate on topics including, but not limited to, curriculum, behavior policy, literacy, technology, volunteer opportunities, and student organization.

Gateway Preparatory Academy will utilize our Parent Organization to organize school involvement programs and activities to the extent feasible and appropriate.

**Board reviewed and approved:**
January 10th, 2019