



An Achievable Dream Academy  
Title I Family Engagement Policy  
2016-2017



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**Family Engagement Specialist**

At An Achievable Dream Academy, a Title 1 school, parents and community members are welcome and encouraged to participate in various activities and engagement options. We believe that active parent/community engagement is essential to ensure student academic success. One of our main focuses is for families to understand the state academic standards and how their students are assessed on these. The following is a list of opportunities/activities for our school:

- An Achievable Dream Academy staff will work in partnership with parents to engage them in their child's academic and social development. Some examples are; workshops, conferences, & community events...
- Every year An Achievable Dream Academy will have family activities that will be held in both the school and the greater community. When appropriate community organizations, such as Head Start, and the Community Service Board will partner with us to provide these services. These activities will focus on various learning areas such as; reading, writing, and math. At times, students will attend with their parents. Parents will receive helpful learning tips and activities to assist their children success in school.
- A newsletter will be provided to inform parents of all school and district initiatives that are occurring in their child's education. This focus will allow parents to be knowledgeable about what they see their child doing. Our newsletter can be accessed through our website <http://aadacademy.nn.k12.va.us/export/sites/aada/documents/newsletter.pdf>. Hard copies are available upon request.
- Our Leadership Team meets bi-monthly. The purpose of the School Implementation Team is to improve the excellence of teaching and learning in the school, so that the greatest number of students achieve proficiency in the core academic subjects of reading and mathematics. The purpose of the ATP Team is to serve as the foundation for actively engaging the school's greater community in designing learning goals and innovative projects which enhance the educational experiences of our students.



- An invitation for family engagement will be offered by the school staff and the designated Family Engagement Specialist during Open House, Parent Meetings, and other activities throughout the school year. The meetings will be held at flexible times to encourage parent and community involvement. Transportation will be provided when necessary. Additionally, child care may be provided at evening functions.
- We provide translations, interpreters, and Language Line services to assist parents with understanding the information related to school programs and parent meetings. Translations as applicable!

## *Bienvenido*

- An Achievable Dream Academy staff is available to communicate with parents through various methods, including school and class newsletters, notes home, phone calls to parents, a minimum of twice yearly conferences, and email. Parents are invited to provide input and assist in making decisions regarding their child's education.
- During our designated Parent Meeting parents are provided with information regarding the services offered by Title I and the status of their school's accreditation.
- Parents of incoming kindergarten and outgoing fifth grade students are invited to attend a Kindergarten and Middle School Transition workshop. These workshops are designed to introduce families to the next step of their child's academic development and answer any questions or concerns that they may have.
- Parents will participate in an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Title I parental engagement program. The evaluation will include an assessment of how engagement is increasing and what barriers to parental participation still need to be overcome.
- Each individual classroom has its own method of utilizing parent support depending on the needs of that particular classroom. Volunteers are asked to follow the Newport News Public School District guidelines.



# An Achievable Dream Academy is a School wide Title 1 School

## What is Title I?

Title I is a Federal program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Title I is the funding source from ESEA. It provides money to states and school districts to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students. Title I funds must be used in schools with the highest concentration of students from socio-economic backgrounds. Title I reaches about 21 million students in public and private schools throughout the United States. In December of 2015, President Obama signed the ESSA which reauthorizes ESEA and replaces No Child Left Behind. 2016-2017 is a year of transition for ESEA to ESSA. ESSA will go into full effect for the 2017-2018 school year.

## One of the Family Engagement Requirements for a Title I School is:

Each district that receives Title I, Part A funds must develop a written parental engagement policy that establishes the district's expectations for parental engagement. The district policy must be developed jointly with, and agreed upon with, the parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs and distributed to parents of all children participating in Title I, Part A programs.

This policy was adopted by An Achievable Dream Academy on October 06, 2015 and will be in effect for the period of the 2016-2017 school year. The school will display this policy in a visible location which will allow all parents of participating Title I, Part A children to view it on or before October 31, 2016. The school will provide copies to each parent of a child participating in a Title I, Part A program. Additional copies will be located in the school office, parent resource area, and the library.

*Terra Harris*

*(Signature of Authorized Official)*

October 31, 2016

*(Date)*

### **Contributed to Policy:**

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**Please provide written comments to your school's Family Engagement Specialist**

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