Overview

Pacific High School views parents and family as full and integral partners in their children’s education at school. Parent-school partnerships improve schools, strengthen families, build community support, and increase student achievement and success. The purpose of this policy is to encourage active parent and family engagement, and to define how Pacific High School will facilitate this.

Joint Development

This policy was jointly developed with parents and family members. District and school administration requested input via focus groups and school parent advisory committees.

In general, the Sitka School District plans broadly for all programming, and then allocates resources, including Federal funding, as appropriate and available. Parents and family members will participate in developing the District ESEA Plan, Consolidated Grant Applications, and School Improvement Plans through the District Strategic Planning Process and school-based planning processes.

Annual Title 1A Meeting

Annually, Pacific High School will host a Title IA meeting, at a time convenient for parents and family of children receiving Title IA funded services. The school will provide information on the Title IA program and request input on the programming and on this parent and family involvement policy.

Communication

Pacific High School will provide families of participating children with the following, in an understandable format, at the annual meeting, parent conferences, or via mail or e-mail:

- Timely information about the school’s Title IA programming
- A copy of or link to the school and district parent and family engagement policies
- A description of the curriculum and assessments used, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards
- If requested by parents, the opportunity for regular meetings to give input into school planning
- Information on any programming provided to parents/families
Coordination

Pacific High School will coordinate parent and family engagement efforts made under the requirements of Title IA with other parent and family engagement activities taking place within the school. The school will also coordinate with the District and local partners to provide additional supports and resources to families.

Building Capacity of Parents and Family Members

Pacific High School will build Title I parents’ and family members’ capacity for school engagement by providing assistance in understanding academic standards and assessments, how to monitor student progress, how to work with educators to support students, and the requirements of Title IA. The school may also provide training to families to develop the skills needed to help their children improve their academic achievement.

Building Capacity of School Staff

Pacific High School will provide annual professional learning to teachers and staff, to include:

- The value of parental contributions
- How to communicate to parents
- How to work with parents as equal partners
- How to implement parent programs, and
- How to build ties between parents and the schools.

SCHOOL-GAMILY-STUDENT COMPACT

The following compact was jointly developed with parents and families. District and school administration requested parent and family input via focus groups and school parent advisory committees.

The purpose is to define how schools, families, and students will share responsibility for academic achievement.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, including

- Evidence-based core academic and social emotional learning curricula
- Multi-tiered systems of support for both academics and behavior, intended to serve the diverse needs of all students
- Effective teaching practices
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Support
Data-informed instruction and class placement

Host biannual parent-teacher conferences, at which this compact may be discussed. Conferences are held in October and February of each year.

Provide parents/guardians regular reports on their children’s progress as follows:

- Report cards are mailed out at the end of each semester.
- MAP assessment results are discussed at parent-teacher conferences in the Fall.
- Scores on the State summative assessments given in grades 3-10 are mailed home in the first month after school starts each year.
- When grades or attendance begin to lag for a student, parent contact is initiated by the student’s teacher, and followed up by school administration if necessary.

Provide parents reasonable access to staff:

- Teachers can be contacted by calling their classroom phone, the main PHS number, and/or by school district email. This information is provided to parents at the beginning of each school year during welcome-back interviews.
- Administration can be contacted by calling direct office phone, the main PHS number, and/or by school district email.
- Staff email addresses and phone numbers can be found in the staff directory on the district website at www.sitkaschools.org
- Family members are invited to stop by the school from 8am to 4pm to make an appointment with staff.

Provide parents with opportunities to volunteer, observe, or participate in their children’s classrooms, such as:

- Parents are always welcome to set up an appointment to observe classes and/or participate in activities or field trips.
- Parents are invited to design and teach Friday Enrichment classes in an area they are professionally qualified with the approval of PHS administration.
- There are a variety of needs at PHS that can be satisfied by parent volunteers. Parents are encouraged to contact PHS administration for more information.

Facilitate meaningful, two-way communication between family members and school staff by:

- PHS staff and administration maintain regular communication with parents throughout the school year through phone, email, and in-person meetings. Parents are invited to monthly Parent-Community-Council meetings and/or academic culmination events each quarter. Parents and families are encouraged throughout the school year to reach out to PHS staff with any questions, concerns or ideas.

**PARENT/FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Parents and family members may support their children’s learning in the following ways:
• Encouraging your student to read every day and/or reading together
• Talking supportively about school at home
• Encouraging students to do their best and stick to it when school is hard
• Ensuring students eat a nutritious breakfast, either at home or at school
• Participating in decisions about their children’s education
• Staying informed about school by reading notices sent home
• Participating in school and district planning and surveys
• Advocating for their children’s needs at school
• Supporting regular and timely student attendance
• Supporting students in completing homework

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students can influence their own success by doing the following:

• Trying their best in academic work and behavior
• Asking for help when needed
• Coming to school willing to participate and learn
• Communicating with teachers, principals, family members, and/or other caring adults about school experiences
• Showing respect for themselves, the school, and others
• Believing in themselves
• Tending to their mental health needs when necessary through self-care and reaching out to supportive adults.
• Persevering through difficult times by staying connected to school staff and reaching out when resources are needed.

SITKA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Adoption Date: March 3, 2021