

GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

School Family Engagement Policy
2019-2020

Connecting Families to Schools and Education

Parent and Family Engagement

As a Title I School, Greater Lowell Technical High School is happy to work with families to ensure that children have exceptional support and access to grade level curriculum. We will provide high quality instructional programs that will improve each student's literacy, math, social studies, and/or science skills and prepare him/her for the current academic year. We believe in the importance of partnering with families to promote high levels of achievement and social emotional well-being to ensure students' readiness for career, college and citizenship in the 21st century. This includes:

1. Convening an annual meeting to which all families of students shall be invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to inform families of Greater Lowell Technical High School's participation in a school-wide Title I program and to explain the requirements and the rights of families to be involved.
2. Offering a flexible number of ways for parent involvement: School Council, ELL Advisory, Title I Parent Meeting, GLPO Parent Organization, Special Education Parent Advisory Council, Parent Portal, Surveys.
3. Involving families, in an organized, on-going and timely way in the planning, implementation and review of the Title I programs.
4. Teachers and programs engage families in two-way communication.
5. Providing to families:
 - Timely information about Title I Programs
 - A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress
 - If requested by families, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children
 - Provide Parent Liaisons Services to help facilitate parent understanding of Greater Lowell student expectations.
 - Provide reports and information in a format and language that all parents can understand.

Parent's Right to Know

The School district shall notify the parents of each student attending Greater Lowell Technical High School that the parents may request information and the district will provide in a timely manner regarding the professional qualifications of their children's classroom teachers, including:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides quality instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria has been waived.
- Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

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The school district shall provide to each individual family:

- Information on the child's level of achievement and academic growth in each of the state academic assessments as required under Title I.
- Timely notice that the child has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet state licensure requirements.

Parent, Student and School Compact

As a component of the family engagement policy the school shall develop jointly with families a school-parent-student compact for all children served under School-wide Title I programs. This compact will outline how school staff, families and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement, and the means by which schools and families will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve the state's high standards.

The parent-student-school compact shall:

1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment. All students are expected to meet the state's academic standards. Families are responsible for supporting their child's learning, such as Encourage my son/daughter to put forth good effort in school work, attendance and behavior and providing a time and space for my son/daughter to complete homework assignments.
2. Addressing the importance of communication between teachers and families on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum:
 - Open House night;
 - Regular reports to families regarding their child's progress; and
 - Reasonable access to staff and opportunities for parents to volunteer.