

# Odyssey Charter School

## *Parent and Family Engagement Policy and Plan for Shared Student Success*

*2018–2019 School Year*

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[Odysseycharterschool.net](http://Odysseycharterschool.net)

*Plan Revised July 30, 2018*

### **What is Title I?**

Odyssey is identified as a Title I school as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to the challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with parents and family members a written parent and family engagement policy.



## **School Plan for Shared Student Achievement**

### **What is it?**

This is a plan that describes how Odyssey will provide opportunities to improve family engagement to support student learning. Odyssey values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways that Odyssey will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.



### **How is it revised?**

Odyssey invited parents to attend our annual School Improvement Committee meetings last year to review and revise this parent and family engagement policy, as well as the schoolwide plan, our school-parent compacts, and the family engagement budget. Additionally, parent input and comments regarding this plan are welcome during the school year through an online form. The plan is posted on our school website for parents to view and submit feedback throughout the year. All parent feedback received during the year will be used to revise the plan for the next school year. We also distribute bi-annual surveys with student's October and March report cards to ask parents for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for family engagement. Parents and family members can also give feedback during several parent meetings and activities during the school year including our Academic Parent Teacher Team Meetings.

### **Who is it for?**

All students participating in the Title I, Part A program, and their families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. Odyssey will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents and family members with limited English, with disabilities, and of migratory children.

### **Where is it available?**

At the beginning of the year, the plan is sent home by the end of the first full week of school. As a reminder, we will email the plan to all parents through the school news. The plan will also be posted on the school website and social media. Parents can also retrieve a copy of the plan in the Parent Resource Center.

## **2018–19 District Goals**

*Build relationships between all stakeholders consistently across all classrooms in order to increase rigor and relevance of our curriculum and instruction.*

## **2018–19 School Goals**

### **K-2<sup>nd</sup>**

Increase class average in oral reading by 25 words per minute

### **3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

Increase the percent of students scoring as proficient or above in English/Language Arts by 5% schoolwide and in Math 5% schoolwide

## **School-Parent Compacts**

As part of this plan, Odyssey and our families will develop a school-parent compact, which is an agreement that parents, teachers, and students will develop that explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers during the

Bi-Annual surveys and School Improvement Committee meetings.

The school-parent Compacts are also shared with parents during conferences with additional copies available on request.

## **Let's Get Together!**

Odyssey will host the following events to build the capacity for strong family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.

### **Open House – August 1**

Meet your child's teacher and our friendly and helpful school staff for the year.

### **Middle School Survival Sessions –**

Meeting 1- August 16: 6<sup>th</sup> grade at 6pm; 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 6:45pm; 8<sup>th</sup> grade at 7:15pm

Meeting 2- October 16 for 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at 6pm; October 18 for 7<sup>th</sup> grade at 6pm

Opportunities for parents to have meaningful-two way conversations regarding the academic expectations, student achievement data, social and emotional situations and other topics concerning middle school students.

### **Academic Parent Teacher Team Meetings**

Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> grades: August 28; March 19 from 6:00 – 7:15 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades: August 30; March 21 from 6:00 – 7:15 pm

Individual Meetings scheduled November 1-15<sup>th</sup> by Teacher

### **Annual Title I Meeting – September 25 at 6:30 pm**

We invite you to an evening of learning and sharing about our Title I program, including our parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, the school-parent compacts, and parents' requirements. This event is advertised through the daily news, on the Parent Engagement Calendar, and on social media.

### **Navigating Odyssey**

Series of Parent Workshops that discuss the school's curriculum and assessments, how to access Powerschool to monitor student achievement, internet safety and digital piracy, and other topics chosen by families.

Accessing Powerschool and other online accounts- September 28, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Internet Safety and Copyright Piracy- November 6, 2018

Georgia Milestones Assessment- March 26 & 28, 2019 6:30 pm

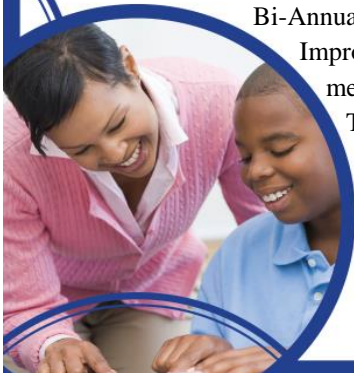
### **Parent and Family Engagement Luncheons by Grade**

Families are invited into the classrooms to participate in a curriculum activity with their student and provide program input. Event times by grade level.

Grandparents Week- October 9-12, 2018

### **Transition to High School – February 5 and May 8 at 6pm**

An evening in which our school counselor discusses graduation plans, our family engagement coordinator provides resources on transitions, our registrar assists families with paperwork, and former Odyssey alumni return for a panel discussion to answer questions regarding the transition to high school with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students.



## Parent Resource Center

Come visit the Parent Resource Center to check out books, study materials, and activities to use at home with your child. Computers are available for parents to explore the Parent Portal and educational resources.

Monday – Friday, 8:00- 8:30 am and 3:00– 4:00 pm

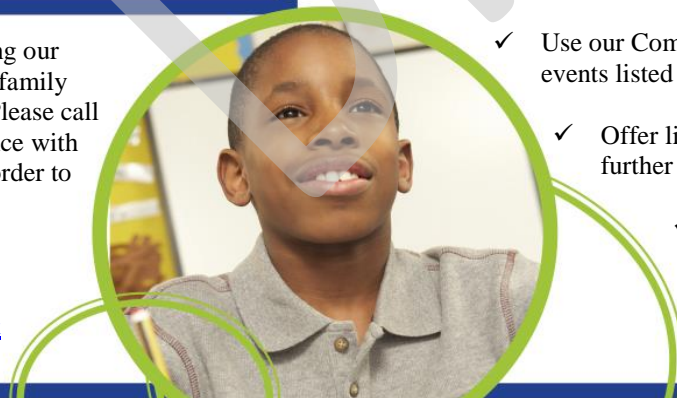
## Parent and Family Engagement

Odyssey believes that family engagement means the participation of parents and family members in regular two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- That parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning.
- That parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school.
- That parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

Odyssey is committed to helping our parents and families attend the family activities listed in this policy. Please call or email us if you need assistance with child care or transportation in order to participate in our programs.

Jennifer Priser  
(770) 251-6111 ext 239 or  
[PIC@odysseycharterschool.net](mailto:PIC@odysseycharterschool.net)



## Odyssey is Branching Out!

Odyssey will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will:

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is published in both English and Spanish, as practicable, posted on the school website, and included in the school news for all families.
- ✓ Provide trainings for staff on strategies to improve communication with parents and ideas to increase family engagement with reading and math activities for our students outside of the classroom. Staff will also share best practices during regularly scheduled faculty meetings.
- ✓ Partner with early childhood programs, middle and high schools, college and career ready resources or organizations, parent resource centers, or other programs (as applicable) to help prepare parents and their children for successful school transitioning.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish school news and website for parents to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding schoolwide events and activities, through phone messages, social media, and flyers.
- ✓ Work with our parents to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials and handouts for parents at conferences, meetings, and activities to help parents work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Use our Community Relations Committee to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement policy.
- ✓ Offer literacy and computer classes for parents and family members to help further enhance their various educational levels, as requested.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at events and a suggestion form on the school website in order to respond to parents' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.



## Parent and Family Engagement Standards

Odyssey and our parents have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, students, and the community. These standards are:

1. Welcoming All Families
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with Community

## School Community Team

*Odyssey invites all parents to join the Community Relations Committee to share ideas and ways to involve other parents and family members to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The committee will meet regularly during the school year, but parents and family members can also submit their ideas or suggestions at any school activities and meetings, as well as through our parent surveys and website. If you would like to learn more about the School Community Team, please contact the Family Engagement Coordinator, Jennifer Priser at [PIC@odysseycharterschool.net](mailto:PIC@odysseycharterschool.net).*



## Community Relations Committee

- Yes, I am interested and wish to join the Community Relations Committee.
- Please contact me so I can learn more about the committee.
- Please send me notifications about future meetings and updates.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you. If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this policy that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided and leave this form in the Main Office:

Name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

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