

## Mt. Healthy City School District Parent Newsletter Winter, 2018-2019

This winter newsletter shares information for parents and guardians, highlighting opportunities for involvement. A contact is provided at the bottom of the newsletter for those interested in more information.

**School-wide Title I Programs:** All MTHCS schools are Title I School-wide Program schools. Schools budget Federal Title I Part A funds to upgrade the entire educational program of the school. MTHCS's Title I Programs aim to ensure that all children, especially those considered most academically at-risk, have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging academic achievement standards that the State of Ohio has set for all children.

**Annual Title I School-wide Program Meeting:** Every school year, usually at each school's back-to-school parent event, building Principals inform parents about the elements of the school's Title I School-wide and improvement plans. The date of the Annual Title I Meeting at each building is shown on the District calendar. Parents are encouraged / invited to be involved in development of school plans, to participate in school activities, and to give input to the annual evaluation of plans, both at the school and District level.

**District and School Building Written Parent and Family Engagement Policy:** Parents have a right to participate in the development / annual review of the District and schools' Parent and Family Engagement Policy. This opportunity occurs annually, typically during the back-to-school Annual Title I Building Parent Meeting, or at other times such as a regularly scheduled PTA / PTO meetings and/or a District committee meeting. MTHCS Board Policy #2111 *Parent & Community Involvement* and #2261.01 *Parent Participation in Title I Programs* describe and encourage parent engagement, and are viewable on the District website: <https://www.mthcs.org>. The building-level Policy is posted on each school's website.

**Parents' Right to Know – Teacher and Paraprofessional Qualifications:** Parents have the right to know the qualifications of certain teachers and paraprofessionals providing teaching and services to their child in Title I School-wide Program schools. Parents may participate in an annual *Local Equitable Access Planning* process designed to ensure all students have access to high quality teachers.

**Annual Local Education Agency Report Cards:** The MTHCS District and building Report Cards issued by the Ohio Department of Education are available through a link on the MTHCS website <https://www.mthcs.org> or on the Ohio Department of Education Report Card website: <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/>.

**Parents' Right to Know – Level of Achievement Attained by their Student(s) on State Assessments:** Parents have a right to information about their children's academic performance on State assessments. Parents are provided individual student achievement reports showing information / data. These are available at Parent / Teacher Conferences, are mailed to parents /sent home with students, and may be requested.

**Parents' Right to Know – Information on State and Local Assessments:** Parents have the right to be informed about information on each assessment required by the Ohio Department of Education and MTHCS. Such information includes subject matter assessed; purpose of the assessments; and source of the assessment requirement. Parents also have a right to view the MTHCS school year assessment calendar, including the length of time expected for each assessment and a plan and timeline for sharing assessment results.

**Parents' Right to Know – State and/or District Policy Student Participation in Assessments:**

Parents have right to know and request information about both State and District policies regarding students' required participation in State and local assessments. Parents have the right to ask for information describing means to "opt out" of assessments, if allowable.

**Parents' Right to Know - Timely Notice of Limited State Certification and Licensure:** Parents have a right to be informed if their child has been assigned or taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher with limited State certification or licensure at the grade level / subject in which assigned. Parents will receive such notification from the District Human Resources Department, if applicable.

**Parent / Teacher Conferences:** Conferences are held twice a year in all buildings. At conferences, parents have opportunity to talk with teachers about assessments used, students' proficiency levels, barriers to success, curriculum, State academic standards, and other topics. At conferences parents are invited to read and sign the school's *School, Parent & Student Compact*.

**School, Parent & Student Compact:** The *School, Parent & Student Compact* is revised each year, in each school, with parent input. The *Compact* describes strategies and activities in which parents, teachers, other school personnel and students partner to achieve academic success.

**Supports if Experiencing Homelessness:** The *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act* protects students' educational rights and requires certain supports if a family / youth loses housing, in some situations. The MTHCS Homeless Liaison assists with enrollment and supports, including meaningful community referrals. An Ohio Department of Education and MTHCS dispute resolution process is implemented. Posters and brochures explaining rights and providing contact information are posted in the schools and in the MTHCS Central Enrollment Office.

**English Language Learners:** MTHCS welcomes and encourages involvement of parents / families of English Language Learner students. EL Program information is available as document links on the MTHCS webpage. Translation and interpreter supports are available. Title III Federal funds supplement State, other Federal, and local funds supporting the English Learner Program.

**FERPA - Federal Education Right to Privacy Act:** The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)* affords parents and students certain rights with respect to students' educational records. These include the right to inspect and review the students' education records; to request the amendment of the students' education records; and to restrict sharing of personally identifiable information contained in students' education records. These rights, and a form to restrict release of information, are included in the MTHCS *Gateway* enrollment system for new and returning students, and were mailed with first semester report cards.

**Foster-placed Student Transportation:** Foster-placed students attending MTHCS schools may be eligible for school transportation supports, in certain cases. A MTHCS Foster Coordinator collaborates with county youth services personnel and school staff to support the transportation process.

**Parent Complaint Procedure:** Parents have the right file a complaint or seek resolution of a dispute regarding the District's programs, including Title I School-wide Programs. Mt. Healthy Board Policy #9130 *Public Complaints* describes the procedure and is found at <https://www.mthcs.org>.

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For additional information, please contact Karen O'Connell State & Federal Programs Coordinator / Homeless Liaison (513) 728-4962 or [koconnell@mthcs.org](mailto:koconnell@mthcs.org)  
To request an interpreter, please contact Cori Stevens, EL Program Coordinator (513) 619-1720