



Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Voyage Academy believes that parent involvement is vital to a successful school and optimal student achievement. Parents who enroll their children in Voyage Academy should do so with the understanding that their involvement is crucial to the success of their child's education and of the school. Parents are expected to volunteer 30 hours per year. Here are some of the opportunities that are open for parents to volunteer:

Parent Crew Organization

Voyage Academy has an established Parent Crew Organization (PCO) consisting of parent volunteers whose goal is to fulfill the mission and vision of Voyage Academy, implement extracurricular activities, act as a liaison between the parents of students at Voyage Academy and the Board of Directors. Parents are strongly encouraged to volunteer on a regular basis. There are many opportunities to volunteer in classrooms, on fieldwork, and during expeditions, fundraisers, staff appreciation, field day, kitchen crew, and after-school clubs.

Town Meetings

Town meetings will be held 1-2 times a year. Students, parents and community members will have the chance to meet and mingle at the school with the Governing Board. Parents and stakeholders will be able to voice their concerns or make suggestions in the open forum.

Governing Board Membership

As vacancies become available, parents of the school will be encouraged to turn in applications for vacant positions. The Board will include at least 2 members who have children enrolled at the school. All open board positions will be voted on by the board.

Experts

The curriculum, mission, and Expeditionary Learning methodology encourages the presence of experts at Voyage Academy. We look for experts among parents to help run after school clubs, participate in expeditions, or to share expert knowledge in the classroom.



Student-Led Conferences

Student-Led Conferences will be held twice each school year. Parents will participate in a conference led by their own child. The child will showcase what they have learned through the presentation of a student portfolio. Parents are trained and given prompts on how to respond appropriately during the conference to strengthen family engagement.

Celebration of Learning

Parents have the opportunity to participate several times a year in their child's celebration of learning. Parents are encouraged to ask questions and gain a better understanding of the concepts being learned in the classroom by their child.

Professional Development

Teachers and staff participate in yearly professional development focused on crew and how to strengthen the relationship between home and school.

An annual Title I meeting will be held in conjunction with Back to School Night. The meeting will be held at Voyage Academy. There will be a short presentation and an opportunity for parents to have questions answered regarding Title I.

The Parent and Family Engagement Policy was created by teachers, staff members, parents, board members, and administration and is reviewed annually by these parties.