

Lakeside Charter Academy PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY



The Board of Directors of Lakeside Charter Academy believes that parent and family involvement must be aggressively pursued and supported by our communities, in homes, schools/colleges/universities, neighborhoods, businesses, faith congregations, organizations and government entities by working together in a mutually collaborative effort. As such, the board is committed to developing policies to effectively involve parents in schools and in their child's education. N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.20(b)(3). All parents/families and educators should make family involvement in education a priority; thus, the board commits to providing support and coordination for school staff and parents to implement and sustain appropriate parent involvement. Parents and family members of students are vital contributors in the education of their children.

Accordingly, they are encouraged to participate in the development and structure of school activities and to be kept informed about programs in which their children belong. Moreover, they are to be kept informed of the academic progress their children make as a result of participation in these programs, for it is through mutual understanding and close cooperation between the school and home that a student's academic success improves. Two-way communication between the school and home, both verbal and written, provides a sound base for a good partnership to provide an effective educational program for all students. Full realization of the partnership will be achieved through the on-going commitment and active participation by both home and school. The policy describes how federal and applicable state requirements for parental engagement will be met and sets the school's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement and engagement.

I. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.25, the school shall display on Lakeside Charter Academy's website the following parental legal rights with regard to their child's education:

- A. The right to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs, consistent with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 115C-81.30.
- B. The right to seek a medical or religious exemption from immunization requirements, consistent with the requirements of N.C.G.S. §130A-156 and 130A-157.
- C. The right to review statewide standardized assessment results as part of the State report card.
- D. The right to request an evaluation of their child for an academically or intellectually gifted program, or for identification as a child with a disability, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- E. The right to inspect and purchase public school unit textbooks and other supplementary instructional materials, as provided in Part 3 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- F. The right to access information relating to the school's policies for promotion or Retention.
- G. The right to receive student report cards on a regular basis that clearly depict and grade the student's academic performance in each class or course, the student's conduct, and the student's attendance.
- H. The right to access information relating to the State public education system, State standards, report card requirements, attendance requirements, and textbook requirements.
- I. The right to participate in Lakeside Charter Academy's parent-teacher organization (PTO).
- J. The right to opt-in to certain data collection for their child, as provided in N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.65.
- K. The right for students to participate in protected student information surveys only with parental consent, as provided in N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.65.
- L. The right to review all available records of materials their child has borrowed from a school or classroom library as set forth in Instructional and Media Center Materials Policy.

II. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.30(c), Lakeside Charter Academy shall provide to parents, students, and school personnel, at the beginning of each school year, a parent guide for student achievement that meets the following requirements:

- A. Includes, at a minimum, the State Board requirements developed as provided in subsection (a) of N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.30 and all board policies.
- B. Is understandable to students and parents.
- C. Is provided in writing to the parent.
- D. Is discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students, parents, and teachers.

III. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 115C-76.20, 115C-76.25, and 115C-76.35, the superintendent, Principal or LCA designee shall create a procedure accompanying this policy that creates processes to accomplish the following:

- A. Inform parents of their legal rights and responsibilities with regard to their child's education.
- B. Provide to parents, on an annual basis, the parent's guide for student achievement as set forth in section 2 above.
- C. Allow parents to exercise their legal rights for their child's education, as enumerated in N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.25(a) and Section 1 above.
- D. Make the parental rights contained in N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.25(a) and Section 1 above available to parents electronically or by displaying the information on Lakeside Charter Academy's website.
- E. Provide links to parents for community services.
- F. Establish opportunities for parental involvement in the development, implementation, and evaluation of family involvement programs.
- G. Establish opportunities for parents to participate on school advisory council and in school volunteer programs and other activities.
- H. Provide for parental participation in their child's education to improve parent and teacher cooperation in areas such as homework, school attendance, and discipline that aligns with the parent guide for student achievement required by N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.30 and Section 2 above.
- I. Require principals to effectively communicate to parents the manner in which textbooks are used to implement the school's curricular objectives.

- J. Establish a process for parents to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities offered at their child's school, including both curricular and extracurricular activities.

IV. Parental Requests for Information

A parent may request in writing from the principal of the school in which his or her child is enrolled any of the information the parent has the right to access, as provided in this policy.

The PSU shall adopt procedures for parent requests for information under this policy, and shall include the following:

- A. The process by which a parent may request the information from the Principal in writing.
- B. A principal, within 10 business days of receipt of the request, shall either (i) provide the requested information to the parent or (ii) provide an extension notice to the parent that, due to the volume or complexity of the request, the information will be provided no later than 20 business days from the date of the parental request.
- C. If the principal (i) denies or fails to respond to the request for information within 10 business days, or (ii) fails to provide information within 20 business days following an extension notice, the parent may appeal the denial or lack of response to the Lakeside Charter Academy Board of Directors up to 20 business days from the date of the request to the superintendent.

V. Appeal to Board of Directors

If an information request is appealed to the board within the time limit set forth above, the Lakeside Charter Academy Board will place the parent's appeal on the agenda for the next meeting of the board occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal.

VI. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.40(e), a decision of the Board under that statute and this policy is final and is not subject to judicial review.

VII. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-76.40(d), the district shall display the procedures for appeals on the Lakeside Charter Academy website in the Student Handbook.