

GateWay Early College High School (GWECHS) is committed to fostering meaningful collaboration between the school, families, and the community to support student success. Our Parent Engagement Policy aligns with the Arizona Department of Education's family engagement standards and federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirements.

### 1. Purpose

This policy outlines GWECHS's approach to engaging parents and families in their children's education, ensuring a supportive and effective learning environment.

## 2. Guiding Principles

- **Equity & Inclusion:** We provide equitable access to engagement opportunities for all families, regardless of background.
- Collaboration: We view parents as equal partners in their children's education.
- **Communication:** We ensure two-way, culturally responsive communication.
- Capacity Building: We equip both staff and families with the skills and knowledge to support student achievement.
- Accountability: We continuously assess and improve our engagement efforts.

### 3. Key Components

#### A. Communication & Accessibility

- Provide school information through various channels, including emails, newsletters, texts, and the school website.
- Offer translation and interpretation services for non-English-speaking families. For any translation needs, contact the GateWay Early College High School administration at (602) 286-8759. GateWay Early College High School
- Conduct regular parent-teacher conferences and open forums.
- Utilize digital platforms for real-time updates on student progress.

### B. Family Participation in Decision-Making

- Establish Parent Advisory Councils to involve parents in school improvement planning and budgeting discussions.
- Offer leadership training to encourage parent involvement as part of shared governance.

### C. Supporting Student Learning at Home

- Provide workshops on curriculum, homework strategies, and technology tools.
- Share online resources for literacy, math, and college/career readiness.
- Develop family engagement strategies specific to diverse student needs, including special education and English Language Learners.



# D. Volunteering & Community Involvement

- Create flexible volunteer opportunities for parents based on their availability.
- Partner with local businesses and organizations for mentoring and enrichment programs.
- Organize school-wide family events to build a sense of community.

## **E. Professional Development for Staff**

- Train educators on best practices in family engagement.
- Educate school leaders on cultural competency and inclusive communication.
- Foster a welcoming school climate that encourages parent participation.

## 4. Implementation & Accountability

- Develop annual Parent Engagement Plans with measurable goals.
- Conduct regular surveys to assess parent satisfaction and engagement effectiveness.
- Use parent feedback to improve policies and programs.

### 5. Legal & Policy References

- Arizona Revised Statutes on parental rights in education (A.R.S. § 15-102).
- ESSA Title I, Part A: Parent and Family Engagement Requirements.
- Arizona Department of Education Family Engagement Toolkit.

For more information or assistance, please contact the GWECHS office at (602) 286-8759.

### GateWay Early College High School

We look forward to partnering with you to ensure the success of our students.