



Community-Focused Leadership.  
Character Development.  
College Preparedness.

## School Parent and Family Engagement Policy 2021-2022

August 23, 2021

**Inwood Academy for Leadership (IAL)** receives Title I, Part A funds in support of student academic growth and therefore must jointly develop, agree with, and distribute to family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means of carrying out the requirements of The Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1116.

Parents will be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to every extent possible, it will be provided in a language they can understand. This policy will be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school. The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement specific parental and family engagement activities.

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** understands that parent and family engagement means the participation of parents and families in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring:

- Parents and families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- Parents and families are actively involved in their child's education at school
- Parents and families are included, as appropriate, in school decision-making and on advisory committees to fully partner in the education of their child

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by ESSA Section 1116:

### ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will conduct an annual Title 1 meeting at a convenient time for families, encouraging and inviting all parents of participating children to attend and learn about the school's Title I program, parent requirements, parental involvement policy, parent and family

engagement plan, and school-parent compact. The goal is for parents to be actively involved in the planning and joint development of these policies.

Annual meetings were announced on parent orientation days. **On August 23rd in person and August 26 via ZOOM for our Middle School and August 26 at 6:00pm via zoom for our High School families**, Inwood Academy for Leadership will hold its Annual Title I meeting to inform Middle School and High School parents about the requirements of Title I and the parents' rights to be involved.

### **FLEXIBLE NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** conducted a survey to find out the most convenient times for families to meet and based on this information, we will offer a number of flexible meetings in the morning and/or evening (for which the school may use Title I funds to provide transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement). Families who are unable to participate will receive meeting minutes in both English and in Spanish, and these minutes will also be available on the school website.

### **WORK TOGETHER**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the school's Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the schoolwide program plan. This will be done in an organized, ongoing, and timely way.

At the beginning of each school year, Inwood Academy will meet with parents and other stakeholders. During this meeting, parents will receive information about the school's [Parent and Family Engagement Plan](#) and will be informed of their parental right to be involved in the planning and development of the plan through meetings, surveys and questionnaires. If the program plan is not satisfactory to parents, they may submit comments to the school's CEO, Christina Reyes. The plan will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year and posted to the school's website.

### **COMMUNICATION**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will provide parents of participating children with information about programs under Title I, including: updates on the school's curriculum and academic assessment tools, State academic standards, and, when requested, opportunities for meetings to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children. All relevant information will be provided in both English and Spanish, and, to whatever extent possible, in a language the family member can understand.

The IAL Parent and Family Engagement Policy will be sent home at the beginning of the school year and made available on the school website. It will also be discussed with parents during parent-teacher conferences at the beginning of the school year. The policy will be assessed each year based on the number of participants, the number of volunteers, and the responses to parent questionnaires and/or surveys. All parents will have the opportunity to participate in a yearly review to plan and improve this policy.

### **DISSENSION PROCESS**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will submit any comments/concerns to the office of Strategy and Institutional Advancement if the schoolwide plan and/or parent and family engagement policy is not satisfactory to parents.

**Any comments or concerns can be emailed to Inwood Academy CEO Christina Reyes at [Christina.Reyes@ialcs.org](mailto:Christina.Reyes@ialcs.org)**

### **SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will collaborate with parents of participating children to develop a school-parent compact that outlines shared responsibilities in improving student academic achievement. **Inwood Academy** will hold an annual parent meeting to review and discuss any necessary changes to this compact.

### **EMPOWER PARENTS**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will increase parents' capacity for partnership and involvement by:

1. Providing training to help parents support their children in areas such as:
  - New York State's academic content standards,
  - New York State's student academic achievement standards,
  - New York State and local academic assessments (including alternate assessments),
  - the requirements of Title I, Part A,
  - how to monitor student progress, and
  - how to work with educators to improve the achievement of students.
2. Educating teachers, specialized instructional staff, principals, and other school leaders on the value and utility of parent contributions, teaching all staff how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners toward student growth.
3. Integrating parent programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, and conducting other activities that encourage and allow parents to fully participate in the education of their children.

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will offer parent workshops as needed to support the progress of English Language Learners, students with IEPs, and general education students. IAL will also help parents make sure their children are on track for transitions between middle school, high school, and college. IAL will offer training in the student information system, ALMA, Class Dojo, and encourage parents to use other online resources that support student learning.

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

**Inwood Academy for Leadership** will carry out the Parent and Family Engagement requirements and, to every extent possible, provide full opportunities for the participation of family members (including those with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and parents of migratory children). The school will provide information and school reports required under section 1111 in a format and language (to every extent possible) parents can understand.

Parent volunteers will be asked to work with the community to garner support for virtual events such as: **Family Council Meetings, workshops on parenting and wellness, community service opportunities, community fairs, IAL News Briefs, parent conferences,** and many other parent events.

Surveys will be sent out to parents to learn areas of need and identify barriers to parent participation. Parent workshops will be held as needed (interpreters will be available to assist with non-English speaking parents and/or parents with disabilities) to encourage parental involvement in the school. Family members will be made aware of the training sessions through resources such as newsletters, use of the school sign, social media, and the school website.