

## **PARENT'S RIGHT-TO-KNOW**

For Advising Parents of the Right to Know Information about a Teacher's Qualifications as Required by NCLB [Section 1111(6) (A) ESEA.] Guidance C-6

At Alta Vista Charter School, we are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title I school, we must meet federal rules related to teacher qualifications as defined in No Child Left Behind. These rules allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are glad to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact the school's Principal.

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

The Board recognizes the positive effects of parents/families' involvement in the education of their children. The Board is committed to strong parent/family involvement in working collaboratively with district staff as knowledgeable partners in educating district students. In order to implement the Board's commitment to parent/family involvement in education, the Superintendent will appoint a committee of parents, staff and community representatives to serve as the School's Parent Involvement Committee. The Committee's responsibilities will include recommendations for program development, parent/staff training and program evaluation. The evaluation will include identifying barriers by parents who are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic background. The district will use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies. Program evaluation reports will be prepared and submitted to the Superintendent annually.

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN**

Alta Vista Charter School recognizes that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family during the entire time the child spends in school. To support the goal of the school to educate all students effectively, the school and parents must work as knowledgeable partners. Parents are an integral component of a school's ability to provide for the educational success of their children. The school endeavors to meet the diverse cultural and language needs of parents and children. Alta Vista Charter School acknowledges that engaging parents is essential to improve student achievement and that schools should foster and support active parental involvement.

In response to this commitment to active parental involvement and in compliance with the legal requirements of Act 603 of 2003 and the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Alta Vista Charter School establishes the following parental involvement plan.

Alta Vista Charter School Parent Involvement Plan, established in collaboration with parents, includes programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and reflects the specific needs of students and their families.

The Parental Involvement Plan involves parents of students of all grade levels in a variety of roles. The plan recognizes that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way, and meaningful.

To encourage communication with parents, Alta Vista Charter School schedules two Parent -Teacher Conferences per year.

To promote and support responsible parenting, Alta Vista Charter School will sponsor workshops to provide parents with information on positive discipline tips, bullying prevention, communication skills, budgeting, teaching responsibility, setting limits, food and fitness, family strengths, managing stress, homework, and many others regarding responsible parenting and college readiness. Other topics in the high school level include how to be involved in the decisions affecting course selection, career planning, and preparation for post-secondary opportunities. These dates will be advertised and parents will be invited to attend workshops every semester.

Alta Vista is open to all parents who have children enrolled in Alta Vista Charter School. Parent input and questions are welcomed as the school strives to be of service to parents with concerns about their child's education and well-being.

Teachers will regularly communicate with parents directly or through the bilingual Parent Liaisons/Family Advocates.

To welcome parents to Alta Vista Charter School, there is no policy or procedure that would discourage a parent from visiting a school, specifically including:

1. Policies requiring parents to pick-up their child outside the school building each day, and
2. Policies prohibiting the parents from visiting a child's classroom during school events.

To encourage parents to participate as full partners in the decisions that affect their child and family, Alta Vista will publish the school's process for resolving parental concerns, including how to define the problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions.

Alta Vista Charter School recognizes that community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning.

Alta Vista Charter School will support the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of the program to involve parents in the decisions and practices of the school using to the degree possible, the following components:

1. The Principals have designated Parent Liaisons that serve as parent facilitators to organize meaningful training for staff and parents promoting and encouraging a welcoming atmosphere to parental involvement in the school. The parent liaisons will also undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.
2. Professional development for teachers and staff will be designed to enhance understanding of effective parent involvement strategies and the importance of setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

It is the goal of Alta Vista Charter School to assure an ongoing partnership between families, communities, and school. We believe such a partnership is fundamental to the academic and social success of students. From this partnership a support will evolve that will have a positive effect on student achievement and will produce a sense of cooperative responsibility in ensuring excellence in the educational process.