



ECO Charter School

ENVIRONMENT · COMMUNITY · OPPORTUNITY

2015-2016 TITLE I FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

A strong partnership between the home and school is an essential element of quality educational programming. ECO Charter School is dedicated to the philosophy that parent engagement is integral to the success of each student.

For this reason, families are actively recruited as our partners for success. During August and September, our school hosts orientation and open house events to introduce families to ECO and our Title I intervention programming. Families are informed about why, how, and when we offer support services for students who are identified as "in need of supplemental support". We also share information about our Home and School Alliance, academic and engagement workshops for families, and incentive activities.

As part of our first all-school mailing, we provide in writing, the Home & School Compact (outlines how we seek to partner with families for the success of students), and the Parent Engagement Policy. Finally, throughout the school year, families are provided numerous opportunities to meet with the Lead Person, faculty, support staff and all individuals charged with delivering services to ECO students. To this end, ECO Charter School seeks to ensure all families understand:

- Family meetings and conferences can and will be held at varying times during the day in an effort to accommodate family schedules.
- Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with family engagement activities.
- Families will be involved in the planning, review, and improvement of ECO's Title I program, as well as assisting in the writing of recommended Parental Engagement Policy revisions as needed. Families will have the opportunity to be a part of the Fall and Spring Advisory meetings. Also, families are always invited to the Home and School Alliance meetings.

- ECO will provide families with timely information about the student academic progress and the Title I program. ECO's newsletters, notes on report cards, calendars, etc. will provide the most updated information.
- ECO will provide families with a description and explanation of the curriculum used, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and proficiency levels, and levels students are expected to meet in the form of the state test scores.
- ECO will provide appropriate opportunities for families to attend regular meetings to formulate suggestions relating to students' education. These opportunities can include individual family conferences, activities from the resource center, or activities presented by the individual teams.
- The Home & School Compact, signed in the Fall by the student, parent and teacher, will outline how everyone will share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
- Common Core and New Jersey academic standards will be posted on the walls for all parents to see during orientations, meetings, conferences, and activities.
- ECO will provide families with assistance in understanding the state and common core academic content standards, the state student achievement standards, and the local assessments.
- Families are expected to regularly monitor their child's progress and help to improve their achievement.
- ECO Charter School will ensure that information relating to school meetings, special programs, and related school activities will be sent to families in a form and language that families can understand.