

De Anza Academy of Technology and the Arts - Parent Involvement Policy

De Anza Academy of Technology and the Arts (DATA) will follow the guidelines developed with parent input as listed below in accordance with the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. This policy will be distributed to parents of students participating in the Title I program, and will be updated periodically.

Policy Guidelines

- De Anza Academy will convene an annual meeting to explain Title I Program Description, school parent involvement policy, and the rights of parents of program participants. De Anza Academy participated in the federal School wide Title I program aimed at the improvement of the entire educational program at the school. Parents are informed about our Title I status at our first big meeting of the year for Back to School Night, and are kept updated throughout the year at meetings at the school site as well as in literature sent home.

- Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way to plan, review and improve planning and policy documents, such as:
 - The *Single Plan for Student Achievement* is put together with input from parents and community members as represented in School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), Parent Teacher Association, and PAC. Parents are elected to be DELAC reps and SSC reps. PTA, ELAC, Back to School Night, and Title I meetings are held in both English and Spanish as needed with translation provided by school and/or district staff.
 - The School Site Council is composed of 3 parents, 3 students, and 6 staff members.
 - The School-Parent Compact is a written agreement of what schools and parents are each supposed to do to help students achieve. The compact is sent home in October, signed, and returned to school. Families receive multiple copies of the compact in order to ensure that they know the contents. Staff members in the office monitor who has completed the compact or not.
 - Plans for training school staff on how to strengthen ties between home and school

- Provide parents of participating students with
 - *Opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions, share experiences with other parents, and participate as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children if parents express an interest in doing so through the PTA, ELAC, PAC, SSC, and Connect Ed announcements. We have Back to School Night, at which we explain Title I and the compact. Newsletters including a calendar of events are sent home monthly to keep parents up to date on what is happening in our school. Parents are invited to parent conferences, SST, and IEP meetings as appropriate for their child's needs. De Anza invites parents to participate in training such as PIQE (Parent Institute for Quality Education) and Parenting Wisely.*
 - *All information sent home in English and Spanish, whether by phone through ConnectEd or in print. We have a bilingual Parent Liaison who is able to call home in either language, and we have a bilingual office manager, attendance clerk, and Health Tech to help facilitate parent needs in the office.*
 - *Parents have access to a description and explanation of curriculum to be used*
 - *The forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress*
 - *Proficiency levels that students are expected to meet*
 - *Materials and training on how to improve their child's achievement*
 - *We have a website available for parents to access for more information at: www.dataschool.org*

- At De Anza, we coordinate with the city of Ventura to have the after school program ASES on our campus. ASES provides tutoring, fun activities, and a safe environment for 110 students.

- We work with elementary schools such as Sheridan Way, E.P. Foster, Will Rogers, and Sunset as well as the high schools our children will attend to encourage partnerships with elementary, middle and high schools and build bridges to add continuity to a child's learning experience within Ventura Unified. For

example, tutors from the college work with our students in AVID, and we have held joint meetings with our feeder elementary schools.

- De Anza coordinates with several community organizations as well, such as the Kiwanis Club, which works with our students through Builder's Club, the East Ventura Optimist Club, Leadership Ventura, Chamber of Commerce and Lions' Club.

- We offer a flexible schedule of meetings that is convenient to parents, with most family meetings held in the late afternoon or evenings by parent request and availability. This includes PTA, ELAC, parent conferences, and Title I meetings. SST meetings are held in the afternoon on Fridays.

- We have a Family Center staffed seven hours a day to provide other reasonable support for parental involvement at parents' request. Literature, resources, videotapes, etc. are available for parents to use. We hold community-based events, such as Health Fairs, including a Blood Drive, mammogram screenings, flu shots, and other information to coordinate health services for families.

- Partnerships with Ventura College, CSUCI, Vita Art Center, and CAPS-TV.

- Invite parents in as guest speakers about careers.

- Partner with Ventura County Museum for student displays.

- Train parents in technology-related issues including handing out the book NetCetera in English and Spanish, training prior to the start of the school year, putting information in the student Agenda, and offering information on cyber-bullying and information literacy.