



Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School

Providing new alternatives for a better education

233 Woodside Avenue

Newark, NJ 07104

Tel: (973) 481-9001 Fax: (973) 481-9009

E-mail: Office@mlvracs.org

Website: <http://www.mlvracs.org>

Title I District-School Parental Involvement Policy

PART I. SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- The school will put into operation programs, activities and procedures for the involvement of parents in school with Title I programs. Those programs, activities and procedures will be planned and operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- The school will work to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the Title I requirements, and include, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- In carrying out the Title I, parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the school will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the school plan for Title I is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school will submit any parent comments with the plan when the school submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- The school will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that its Title I school will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

- (A) that parents plan an integral role in assisting their child's learning;*
- (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;*
- (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;*
- (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.*
- The school will inform parents and parental organizations of the purpose and existence of the Parental Information and Resource Center in New Jersey.

Part II. SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY REQUIRED COMPONENTS

1. The **Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School** will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its school parent involvement plan.
 - The school will hold meetings.
 - The school will provide written notification of meetings to parents who are assisting in the development of our school parental involvement plan.
2. The **Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School** will convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents

of their school's participation under this part and to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved;

- The administrator will be trained yearly on Title I procedures.
 - Annually the school will openly invite parents to the Back to School Night meeting.
3. The **Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School** will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with funds provided under this part, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;
- Post notifications of meeting dates and times on the school website (www.mlvracs.org)
 - Provide parents verbal/written notification of meeting dates and times in an effective and timely manner.
4. The **Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School** will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance:
- Create a district-wide NCLB Parent Stakeholder Committee.
5. The **Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School** will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the following activities specifically described below:

A. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will provide assistance to parents of children served by the school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph—

- The state's academic content standards,
- The state's student academic achievement standards,
- The state and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- The requirements of Title I,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators

The district will hold:

- PARCC workshops
- Parent teacher conferences
- Workshop for Parent Portal for PowerSchool
- Annual Title I meeting where the above topics will be discussed.

B. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by inviting parents to;

- ESL night
- Math game night
- Literacy Night
- Science Fair
- Technology Night
- Back to School Night
- Kindergarten Orientation

C. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals, and other staff, in how to reach out to communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners. In the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

- Developing a leadership team which will define within its scope best practices in serving parents and enriching the social and academic experience.

D. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teachers Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children, by;

- We will provide an open forum for parents to express their concern through the leadership team which will develop means for parent participants in the education of their children.

E. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will take the following actions to ensure that Title I information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand;

- All information will be posted on the school website
- Parents will be invited

6. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

- The district will send home surveys yearly
- The district will hold a Title I parent meeting to solicit feedback and suggestion.

7. The Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement:

- Information disseminated to all parents in English and Spanish by a flyer, phone call and district website.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT/SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

The School Parental Involvement Policy may include additional paragraphs listing and describing other discretionary activities that the school district, in consultation with its parents, chooses to undertake to build parents' capacity for involvement in the school and school system to support their children's academic achievement, such as the following discretionary activities:

- Involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training;
- Provide necessary literacy training for parents from Title I, Part A funds received, if the school district has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training.
- Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parent to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
- Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school.
- Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
- Establish a district wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters relate to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs.
- Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities.
- Provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under his section as parents may request.

PART IV ACCESSIBILITY

In carrying out the parental involvement requirements of this part, districts and schools, to the extent practicable, shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand.

PART V. ADOPTION

This School Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I programs, as evidenced by **meeting minutes**.

This policy was adopted by the Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School on May 7, 2015 and will be in effect for the period of 2015-2016 school year. The school district will distribute this policy to all parents of participating Title I children on or before 8-20-15.



 Signature of Title I Authorized Representative

5-18-15

 Date