

**Chapel Hill Academy**  
**Family Engagement Plan**

**Family to Family Support:**

Chapel Hill Academy will create a safe and respectful environment where families can learn from each other as individuals and in groups.

CHA will invite family and community volunteers to share their education and career experiences with current students and families.

CHA will ensure opportunities for continuous participation in events designed for families by families.

**Community Resources:**

CHA will build strategic partnerships and leverage community resources with the help of the Lena Pope Development Department.

CHA will establish and maintain partnerships with businesses, faith-based organizations and community agencies.

CHA will identify support from various agencies, including mental health and physical health providers.

CHA will provide and facilitate referrals to family support or educational groups based on family interests and needs.

CHA will communicate short and long-term program goals to stakeholders.

CHA will identify partners (or identify staff within agency/school) to provide translation and culturally relevant resources reflective of home language.

**Increase Family Participation in Decision Making:**

CHA will continue to support a parent (family) advisory council.

CHA will develop, adopt and implement identified goals within the annual campus improvement plan targeting family engagement.

CHA will develop and support leadership skills for family members and provide opportunities for families to advocate for their children/families.

CHA will collaborate with families to develop strategies to solve problems and be problem solvers.

CHA will engage families in shaping program activities and cultivating the expectation that information must flow in both directions to reflect two-way communication.

CHA will provide each family with an opportunity to review and provide input on program practices, policies, communications and events in order to ensure the program is responsive to the needs of families.

CHA will use tools such as surveys or focus groups to gather family feedback on the family engagement plan.

**Equip Families with Tools to Enhance Learning:**

CHA will design or implement home educational resources to support learning at home while strengthening the family/school partnership.

CHA will provide families with information and/or training on creating a home learning environment connected to formal learning opportunities.

CHA will equip families with resources and skills to support their children through the transition to school and offer opportunities for families and children to visit the school in advance of the prekindergarten school year.

CHA will provide complementary home learning activities for families to engage in at home with children through information presented in newsletters, online technology, social media, parent/family-teacher conferences or other school related events.

CHA will provide families with information, best practices and training related to age-appropriate developmental expectations.

CHA will collaborate with families to appropriately respond to children's behaviors in a non-punitive, positive and supportive way.

**Develop Staff Skills in Evidence Based Practices that Support Families in Meeting their Children's Learning Benchmarks:**

CHA will provide essential professional development for educators in understanding communication and engagement with families.

CHA will promote and develop family engagement as a core strategy to improve teaching and learning among all educators and staff.

CHA will develop staff skills to support and use culturally diverse, culturally relevant and culturally responsive family engagement strategies.

**Evaluate Family Engagement Efforts and Use Evaluations for Continuous Improvement:**

CHA will conduct meetings with each new family to identify the child and family's strengths, interests and needs.

CHA will develop data collection systems to monitor family engagement and focus on engagement of families from specific populations to narrow the achievement gap.

CHA will use data to ensure alignment between family engagement activities and school teaching and learning goals and to promote continuous family engagement.

CHA will ensure that evaluation guides action regarding family engagement.

CHA will ensure teachers play a role in the family engagement evaluation process.