



# UTICA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE CHARTER SCHOOL

## Parent Involvement Policy

In acknowledgement of much reliable research proving that parental involvement raises the academic achievement of students, Utica Academy of Science Charter School (UASCS) encourages involvement of parents through an active Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). Parents are encouraged to assist in such activities as: The Ice Cream Social, Winter Concerts, Book Fair, and Tea with the principal. Parent Involvement Committee will be solicited to tutor children, to help the teachers during class and asked to help monitoring the hallways. A "joint" calendar that includes activities of all of the school's leadership groups, is to be produced annually.

The Joint Calendar will include at least one family activity per school month.

In order to build an effective home-school partnership, UASCS will provide the following:

1. An annual orientation meeting where parents will meet their child's teacher and be reassured of their right and responsibility to be involved in their child's education.
2. A flexible number of meetings and activities throughout the year to assist parents in understanding the federal and state academic content and student achievement standards, as well as local academic assessments. Meetings will also focus on how parents and teachers can work together to monitor the child's progress in order to improve student achievement.
3. A varied schedule for meetings and home visits in order to accommodate the needs of parents.
4. A minimum of two scheduled parent conferences, where the progress of the student will be discussed as well as the expectations for the grade level, school curriculum, test information and any other concerns that the teacher or parent may have.
5. Continuous communication to assist parents in understanding the school curriculum and student achievement through UASCS Report Card, UASCS student database system, Student Handbook, handouts, mailings and student achievement reports.. All invitations will be sent in a timely manner with an additional follow-up reminder.
6. A school-parent compact designed by parents and school staff that outlines how parents, school staff and students share the responsibility for improving learning.
7. Every year, a survey of all parents shall be conducted to collect opinions and concerns of parents about the current program and to collect suggestions for improvement and topics for meetings that meet the needs of parents.

8. UASCS will use the federal grants such as Title IIA (uses below) in order to deliver parental involvement services.

Title 2A funds are used for professional staff development programs such as workshops, training, conferences and related materials such as books, videos and software, etc. The programs encourage teaching staff to develop and maintain successful relationships with both students and parents, as a result have more parents involved in school activities such as tutoring programs, social activities and events.

Every effort will be made to communicate with parents in a format and language that is free of educational jargon and easily understandable by all. Parents and community member are always to be made welcome at Utica Academy of Science Charter School.