

## **Title I Family Involvement Policy Westfield Technical Academy**

The mission of Westfield Technical Academy is to educate and prepare students academically, technically, and professionally to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. The mission of the Title 1 program is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education. The involvement of parents and other family members who play an important role in the young adult's upbringing and well-being is essential to these goals. In collaboration with families, programs and practices that enhance family involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families will be implemented. They will include, but not be limited to:

### **Parents will be partners in developing, reviewing and revising the Title 1 plan at WTA.**

- ◆ All parents will be invited to an annual meeting/forum at the fall Open House. Information on the Title 1 program will be presented, including Title 1 objectives and a description of services. Information on student selection for the Mentoring Program and other interventions will be explained. Feedback and suggestions will be actively solicited from parents.
- ◆ Program information, and opportunities/contact information to provide feedback, will also be made available to parents through the school website, Title 1 website, Open House and other school events, and information distributed in newsletters and flyers.

### **To foster and maintain ongoing communication with parents/guardians and encourage active participation by the significant adults in the lives of our students, the Title 1 Program at WTA will support families and teachers as they plan and implement effective family engagement.**

- ◆ The School and the Title 1 Program will work together to provide information and assistance to parents/guardians concerning their young adult's educational progress, results of standardized testing, school and district academic performance, and their right to know the professional qualifications of the teachers instructing their student.
- ◆ The School and the Title 1 Program will provide parents/guardians with information, literature and materials which reflect important educational and parenting topics, in a format that is understandable to parents/guardians.
- ◆ Maintain open lines of communication between school and home using strategies which will include, but not be limited to parent-teacher conferences, Open Houses, the school and Title 1 websites, phone and e-mail contact, newsletters and flyers. These communications will include opportunities for involvement.
- ◆ Distributing an annual Home/School Compact which details the shared responsibilities of the student, the family and the school in the educational process. The compact will reflect the school's commitment to providing a supportive and safe environment in order to meet the intellectual and social needs of our diverse student body, the importance of parental involvement, and the student's responsibility to uphold the PRIDE philosophy (Perseverance--Respect--Integrity--Diversity--- Excellence).
- ◆ Encourage the education of teachers and other staff in the essential contributions families and the community make in preparing students for career and college readiness.

**The Title 1 Program will actively collaborate with the Parent Volunteer Organization, the English Language Learners program, Special Education program and other school and community organizations to provide families with opportunities to participate in the school community.** These efforts will include sharing information, co-sponsoring programs and events, and encouraging attendance and/or participation in activities that offer educational opportunities for students and their families.

**To ensure the effectiveness of the Title 1 Program at Westfield Technical Academy, parents/guardians will be active participants in an annual review of the program, including the family involvement guidelines.** The findings and comments/suggestions will be used to improve the academic and technical programs of the school. Strategies to increase parent/guardian engagement and overcome barriers which may limit participation for those who face economic, cultural, racial, disability, language or home status challenges.

*Adopted June 2013*