

Gloucester City School District Parent –School Compact 2010-2011

District Mission: The educational process of the Gloucester City Public School District is the embodiment of visionary leadership, involved community, and individual needs. It is characterized by a holistic approach, by technological innovation, and by the development of socially responsible citizens. All students in the Gloucester City School District will be able to demonstrate the skills as outlined in the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. The students of the Gloucester City Schools will become contributing members of a changing economy and be prepared and committed to life long learning.

Each school building every year organizes a School Leadership Council. A School Leadership Council plans and implements ways to increase a school's effectiveness and carries out the District Mission. The concept of representative teams is intended to increase the involvement and contributions of more people in the planning of improved programs and practices. The logic of the team approach is that programs are more likely to be successful when the people who must ultimately implement them have planned them. It is, therefore, the purpose of the SLC to ensure participation of staff, **parents** and the community in school level decision-making and to develop a culture of cooperation, accountability and commitment. Within the school the SLC is responsible for coordinating the development of the schools' shared vision, selecting a WSR model, and establishing a WSR Implementation Plan. In addition, the SLC, working with the school administration, SRI team, and district, is responsible for the ongoing monitoring and assessment of the quality and effectiveness of the schools' plan and program, and the implementation of any needed modifications. In its various capacities, the SLC will take on the roles of educational and instructional guides, decision-makers, problem solvers, assessors, evaluators, and planners. The principal does not abdicate administrative and supervisory responsibilities to the team. The daily operation of the school remains the responsibility of the principal. The SLC creates an internal structure through which ideas from various perspectives flow to ensure that the WSR process has broad based support. The SLC leads and coordinates each step of this process.

Stakeholders responsibilities in the Parent-School Compact :

1. The District will provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to meet the State's challenging student performance standards;
2. Parents will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, volunteering in their children's classroom, participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and encouraging the positive use of extracurricular time; and
3. Both parents and the School District understand the importance of establishing ongoing, good communication between teachers and parents through, therefore, at a minimum,
 - A. Annual parent-teacher conferences will be held to discuss individual student achievement as it relates to provisions of the compact,
 - B. A minimum of two progress reports will be sent to families on student academic progress each academic year, and
 - C. The District will provide to parents reasonable access to staff and opportunities to volunteer, observe, and participate in classroom activities.