

Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School

Board of Trustees Policy

PARENT TRAINING POLICY

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School (“Charter School”) directs that the CEO or designee ensure that Charter School parents are afforded opportunities for training and information sharing in order to address the special knowledge, skills and abilities needed to serve the unique needs of children with disabilities.

Parent training includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their child;
- 2) Providing parents with information about child development; and
- 3) Helping parents acquire the necessary skills that will allow them to support the implementation of their child’s IEP.

Administration is further directed to make training opportunities available to parents or students who require same as part of any IEP and to the extent appropriate under applicable state and federal laws and regulations. Such parent training would be included in the student’s IEP as a Related Service.

Parents must receive thorough and accurate training to ensure that they understand the special education process and their procedural safeguards. For example, parents need to be informed of the options they have if they disagree with a decision the Charter School has made. Additionally, the Charter School must provide information about community organizations that offer support and assistance to parents of students with disabilities. Access to this information assists parents with such topics as parental rights, successful transitioning of their young adult child from school to adult life, and networking opportunities, such as how to effectively work in partnership with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and other community agencies designed to assist youth with transition and disability issues.

Parents need to know who to contact when they have questions about their children's academic, behavioral, and social/emotional progress or if they seek assistance with participating in the development of their children's IEP.

The Charter School may include the many resources that are available from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education (BSE), the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN), ConsultLine, Pennsylvania's federally funded parent centers, Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), and advocacy organizations. Moreover, unique to Pennsylvania is the State and Local Task Force system, which provides an ongoing parent/educator/provider committee structure to work on solving local special education issues. Such organizations may be able to distribute information in multiple media formats explaining to parents what services they provide and how parents may contact them.

The Charter School will be open to parent input regarding parent trainings offered and will organize training sessions during the academic school year.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.